



The humanitarian situation in the West Bank and Gaza Strip continued to deteriorate in 2006. The primary causes of this deterioration were Israeli access and security restrictions and the military incursions together with the Palestinian Authority (PA) fiscal crisis (freezing of the VAT and donors' cutting off of assistance) following the election of the Hamas movement in the Palestinian Legislative Council (PLC) elections.

The deteriorating situation led UN agencies and NGOs participating in the 2006 emergency Appeal to produce a monthly report to monitor changes according to key humanitarian indicators in the following sectors: health, child protection and psychosocial support, education, food security, agriculture, water and sanitation and job creation and cash assistance.

This report uses a combination of measurable humanitarian indicators and verified field observations. These two data collection methods can provide different accounts of the situation. The humanitarian indicators reveal longer-term changes and trends from one month to another. Field observations show early signs of strain that may indicate future changes in the situation more generally.

Under the Fourth Geneva Convention, Israel as the occupying power bears the responsibility for the welfare of the Palestinian population. In recent years, international donors and the PA have in practical terms taken on this role. The Government of Israel (Gol) is also under an obligation to transfer VAT taxes and customs duties that it collects on behalf of the PA under the Paris Protocol (1994) which amounts to roughly US\$60 million per month or roughly 50% of PA revenues. The Gol has withheld these VAT and customs transfers since the PLC elections in January. The Paris Protocol was reaffirmed as continuing to apply as recently as the 15 November 2005 Agreement on Movement and Access (AMA) between the Gol and PA.

The following UN Agencies and NGOs provide information to the Humanitarian Monitor: United Nations Children's Fund (UNICEF), United Nations Development Program (UNDP), United Nations Educational Scientific and Cultural Organization (UNESCO), United Nations Food and Agricultural Organization (FAO), United Nations Office for the Coordination of Humanitarian Affairs (OCHA), United Nations Population Fund (UNFPA), United Nations Relief and Works Agency for Palestinian Refugees in the Near East (UNRWA), United Nations Special Coordinator for the Middle East Peace Process (UNSCO), Oxfam (GB), Palestine Hydrology Group, World Food Program (WFP) and World Health Organization (WHO).

Situation Analysis:

A war-like situation between the IDF and Palestinian militants continued in the Gaza Strip with the population locked down and a limited volume of goods trickling in and out of the area. Although less than in August, 24 Palestinians were killed and 84 were injured in the Gaza Strip this month (a further 7 Palestinians were killed and 112 injured in the West Bank). At the same time, one Israeli was killed and 24 were injured. Internal violence intensified, with 13 Palestinians killed in the Gaza Strip in September.

In the West Bank, the comprehensive enforcement of the strike by PA employees in protest over the non-payment of salaries since March 2006 cut Palestinian access to essential services. Most of the public services, including health and education, were disrupted. The strike, while lasting throughout September in the West Bank ended after several days in the Gaza Strip. The strike added to the strain already on the PA's capacity to deliver services since the freezing of international assistance and Israel's withholding of Palestinian VAT transfers. UN agencies and NGOs in the health sector are concerned about the effect of a weakening PA health system on the general health of the population.

On 21 September, the Quartet issued a statement that "the resumption of transfers of tax and customs revenues collected by Israel on behalf of the Palestinian Authority would have a significant impact on the economy".

Summary Humanitarian Indicators:

Due to the ongoing PA employees strike, not all information was available for this edition of the Humanitarian Monitor, especially with regard to the West Bank.

Protection and access

- In total, 31 Palestinians were killed during the ongoing conflict with Israel in the oPt compared with 76 in August. The number of Palestinians injured (196) decreased since August (266). Twenty-four Israelis were injured.
- Palestinian internal violence intensified with 13 Palestinians killed and 73 injured in the Gaza Strip, compared to 12 killed and 55 injured the previous month.
- One in five Palestinians killed are children – this month ten of the Palestinians killed were children, and a further 28 were injured.
- 389 children were held in detention by Israel, a 30% increase on the 2005 monthly average.



- Palestinian workers and traders from the Gaza Strip have not been allowed into Israel since 12 March. In the West Bank, Palestinian workers and traders with valid entry permits were prohibited from entering East Jerusalem and Israel on three days in September.
- The number of physical obstacles restricting Palestinian movement in the West Bank decreased from 547 in August to 514 in September. The IDF removed redundant earth mounds after the construction of road barriers and fencing along the major restricted roads, and as such, this reduction does not signal improved Palestinian access.
- The Israeli military destroyed 37 Palestinian homes and structures during incursions, air strikes and shelling.

Health

- 26% of essential drugs remained out of stock in the West Bank and 19% in the Gaza Strip.
- The prevalence of anaemia in pregnant women remained high at 46.1% in the Gaza Strip (39.8% in August).
- The incidence of watery and bloody diarrhea in children between the ages of 0 – 3 years attending Gaza's UNRWA health facilities was higher than during the same month in 2005 (+28%) but decreased since last month due to seasonal factors and improved access to electricity and water.

Education

- Since 2 September, 90% of the MoEHE staff is on strike in the West Bank. In the Gaza Strip, a five-day strike halted following an agreement with the Teachers' Union.

Food security

- No milk powder was available in the Gaza Strip in September. Given the electricity supply problems in the Gaza Strip, it is likely that fresh milk is also not widely available.
- Food prices have fluctuated, increasing by 1% Gaza Strip and 0.5% in the West Bank.
- Fishermen have ventured out to catch sardines despite the IDF ban imposed on 25 June. The IDF destroyed several boats and killed one fisherman that tried to fish.

Field Observations:

Delivery of services / capacity of service-providers

Absenteeism and disrupted work practices:

- A strike conducted by the PA employees started on 23 August in protest against the non-payment of salaries, and spread rapidly. Since 14 September, PA introduced the two-day weekend for all PA staff.

- Birth and deaths registrations, marriage certificates issuance, passports and driving license renewal were affected.
- Most PA hospital staff in the West Bank worked according to reduced hours and most services have been suspended at PHCs. Chemotherapy and drugs for chronic illnesses were still provided.
- A partial strike at MoH hospitals in the Gaza Strip lasted three days (5-7 September) 3 hours per day and there was a two-week comprehensive strike at Kamal Adwan hospital (5-21 September).
- In the Gaza Strip teachers struck between 2 September (the start of the new school year) and 9 September. In the West Bank, 90% of PA teachers have been on strike.

Payment of salaries and allowances:

- The PA provided a partial payment of NIS 1,500 (\$33) to employees in late September. With this payment, PA employees earning less than NIS 1,500 (\$333) have received the equivalent of four months salary since March 2006; employees with a NIS 1,500-2,500 (\$333 and 556) salary have received two months salary; and employees with a salary over NIS 2,500 (\$550) have received one and a half month's salary.
- Private West Bank Palestinian companies (e.g. Padico and Paltel) distributed food coupons worth NIS 500 (\$111) to low-income PA employees and the families of detainees.
- As of 30 September 2006, the TIM Window III has disbursed approximately \$44 million to low-income PA employees (mostly teachers and health workers), pensioners and social hardship cases. The TIM will be extended for another three months and is likely to assist a wider group of PA employees.

Health:

- West Bank MoH hospitals and clinics have been on strike for six consecutive weeks severely undermining health care provision. Most wards were closed, except the intensive care, coronary, oncology and haemodialysis units. Emergency rooms receive only critical cases. Maternity wards suspended services on 19 September. With the exception of caesareans, women have delivered babies in low-cost ill-equipped private clinics.
- UNRWA started vaccinating non-refugees. MoH clinics provide vaccines every two weeks (normally it is daily).

Fuel, electricity and water:

- A new emergency pool was dug to prevent sewage overflow in Gaza's Beit Lahia Waste Water Treatment Plant.



- Seven transformers for the Gaza Power Plant have been donated by the Arab League, two of which arrived on 22 September. All transformers will be installed in late November. Rafah city has been connected to the Egyptian electricity network, providing electricity around the clock. The IDF destroyed the Gaza Power Point on 28 June.
- In September, the TIM provided 922,426 litres of fuel to health, water, waste management facilities and to GEDCO electricity company.

Socio-economic conditions

- Canteens at UNRWA schools reported a considerable drop in sales at the beginning of the new school year. Students' pocket money has decreased from NIS 1 to NIS 0.5 (\$0.22 to 0.11).
- Bedouins of Khan Al Ahmar community, between Jerusalem and Jericho governorates, have reduced their livestock sevenfold due to lack of access to markets and the recent drought. Bedouins in Jericho governorate generally, are increasingly unable to afford water.

Security

- On 20 September, the IDF raided 24 banks and money exchange shops in the West Bank cities of Ramallah, Nablus, Tulkarm, and Jenin, confiscating computers and money.
- Masked Palestinian men set fire to churches in Tulkarm, Nablus city, Jenin and Tubas, reportedly in response to comments made by the Pope Benedict XVI regarding Islam.

Access

- Various age restrictions (18-25 years, 16-30 years and 16-35 years) on Palestinian men travelling south through Zaatara checkpoint have created chaos and long queues leaving Nablus.

NGO and UN capacity to respond to increased demand for assistance

- The PA strike has meant that World Food Programme cannot distribute food via its PA counterparts.
- PA employee refugees are receiving emergency food rations from UNRWA.
- In Ramallah governorate, wives of PA employees frequently approach UNRWA schools for jobs.
- In southern West Bank, UNRWA schools are turning down increasing numbers of requests from refugees for admission in the new school year due to lack of classroom capacity and inadequate paperwork from students.



Protection of civilians and access ¹

Indicator	Data		Summary trends	
Number of Palestinians killed and injuredⁱ		West Bank	Gaza Strip	<p>31 Palestinians were killed during the ongoing conflict with Israel in September.ⁱⁱ An additional 13 were killed and 73 injured in Palestinian internal violence in the Gaza Strip.</p> <p>The number of Palestinians injured (196) in the oPt continues to decrease compared to the peak in July.</p>
	Dec 05	12 deaths 124 injuries	14 deaths 33 injuries	
	Apr 06	8 deaths 179 injuries	23 deaths 75 injuries	
	May 06	21 deaths 222 injuries	17 deaths 30 injuries	
	Jun 06	4 deaths 114 injuries	35 deaths 84 injuries	
	Jul 06	17 deaths 209 injuries	164 deaths 590 injuries	
	Aug 06	16 deaths 120 injuries	61 deaths 146 injuries	
	Sep 06	7 deaths 112 injuries	24 deaths 84 injuries	
	Total 2006	101 deaths 1,391 injuries	359 deaths 1,059 injuries	
Number of Israelis killed and injuredⁱⁱⁱ		oPt	Israel	<p>There have been one death and 24 injuries amongst Israelis in September.</p>
	Dec 05	3 deaths 24 injuries	5 deaths 63 injuries	
	Apr 06	0 deaths 17 injuries	6 deaths 61 injuries	
	May 06	0 deaths 15 injuries	1 death 0 injuries	
	Jun 06	1 death 11 injuries	2 deaths 15 injuries	
	Jul 06	3 deaths 31 injuries	0 death 10 injuries	
	Aug 06	1 death 9 injuries	0 death 1 injuries	
	Sep 06	1 death 19 injuries	0 death 5 injuries	
	Total 2006	12 deaths 185 injuries	10 deaths 131 injuries	
Number of days of external closure^{iv}		West Bank	Gaza Strip	<p>Palestinians with West Bank IDs and permits were prevented from entering East Jerusalem and Israel on 3 days in September.</p> <p>External closure for Palestinian workers and traders since 12 March 2006 remained in place in the Gaza Strip.</p>
	Dec 05	25	18	
	Apr 06	30	30	
	May 06	5	31	
	Jun 06	0	30	
	Jul 06	7	31	
	Aug 06	20 ^v	31	
	Sep 06	3	31	
Number of IDF physical obstacles in the West Bank^{vi}		West Bank		<p>The number of physical obstacles in the West Bank decreased from 547 in August to 514 in September.</p>
	end Dec 05	402		
	end Apr 06	504		
	end May 06	519		
	end Jun 06	526		
	end Jul 06	540		
	end Aug 06	547		
End Sep 06	514			
Number of access incidents reported by humanitarian organisations in the West Bank^{vii}		West Bank		<p>61 access incidents were reported in September.</p>
	Dec 05	77		
	Apr 06	92		
	May 06	150		
	Jun 06	50		
	Jul 06	65		
	Aug 06	99		
Sep 06	61			

For more information please contact OCHA, (02) 582 9962 (Helene Quentrec or Mai Yassin)

¹ All 2006 figures have been revised, cross-checked and updated by OCHA accordingly, which explains the changes.



Job creation and cash assistance

Indicator	Data				Summary trends
Unemployment rate ('relaxed definition')^{viii}		oPt	West Bank	Gaza Strip	The unemployment rate in the oPt has risen by more than 8% since the start of the <i>intifada</i> .
	Q3 00	20.2%	16.9%	21.8%	
	Q4 05	29.4%	27.7%	33.1%	The overall unemployment rate fell by 2.5% from the 1 st Quarter of 2006 to the 2 nd Quarter, mostly driven by the slight improvement in the West Bank labour market. ^{ix}
	Q1 06	31.1%	27.2%	39.6%	
Q2 06	28.6%	24.2%	38.7%		
Number of Palestinians employed in Israel and the settlements^x		oPt	West Bank	Gaza Strip	The number of Palestinians employed in Israel and the settlements has decreased from 146,000 to 57,800 since the start of the <i>intifada</i> .
	Q3 00	146,000	116,000	30,000	
	Q4 05	60,000	60,000	NA ^{xi}	Employment in Israel decreased between 1 st Quarter of 2006 and the 2 nd Quarter and remained at low levels.
	Q1 06	61,000	60,000	1,000	
Q2 06	57,800	57,800	0		
Erez crossing (Gaza Strip): average daily labour movement^{xii}		Workers to Israel		Traders to Israel	Since 12 March 2006, no workers or traders from the Gaza Strip have passed through Erez crossing.
	2000	22,795		NA	
	Apr 06	0		0	
	May 06	0		0	
	Jun 06	0		0	
	Jul 06	0		0	
	Aug 06	0		0	
	Sep 06	0		0	
Percentage of households in poverty^{xiii}		oPt	West Bank	Gaza Strip	Household poverty in the oPt increased by 16% since November 2001.
	Nov 01	54%	44%	75%	
	Jul 05	68%	62%	77%	
	Apr 06	70%	66%	79%	
Percentage of PA households in poverty^{xiv}		oPt	West Bank	Gaza Strip	No new figure on poverty is available in September.
	Nov 01	31%	23%	42%	
	Jul 05	37%	33%	42%	
	Apr 06	46%	43%	49%	
Number of applicants to UNRWA job creation programme in the West Bank^{xv}		West Bank			There were 3,000 applicants to a UNRWA jobs in September. Teachers and students returning to school explain the decrease compared to August.
	Apr 04	500			
	Dec 05	2,000			
	Apr 06	4,000			
	May 06	4,000			
	Jun 06	4,500			
	July 06	4,000			
	Aug 06	4,000			
Sep 06	3,000				

For more information please contact UNRWA, (02) 589 0500 (Elena Mancusi)



Health

Indicator	Data		Summary trends	
	West Bank	Gaza Strip		
% of drugs from the essential drugs list that are out of stock at the Central Drugstore^{xvi}			The number of items out of stock in September 2006 remains approximately equivalent to that in August.	
	Dec 05	19%		10%
	Apr 06	23%		18%
	May 06	26%		20%
	Jun 06	27%		19%
	Jul 06	24%		17%
	Aug 06	22%		14%
	Sep 06	25.7%		18.9%
Underweight^{xvii}: - West Bank : % of 0-24 months children whose weight for age is less than 5 th percentile - Gaza Strip : -2 standard deviation amongst 9-12 months children since Jun 06			In the Gaza Strip, the underweight shows a mild deteriorating trend. There is no data in the West Bank due to the PA strike.	
	2004 ^{xviii}	4%		4%
	Mar 06	3.6%		NA
	Apr 06	3.3%		NA
	May 06	3.7%		NA
	June 06	4.2%		4.47%
	July 06	NA		5.15%
	Aug 06	NA		5.64%
Anaemia: Pregnant woman (at first pre-natal visit) measured with haemoglobin less than 11 g/l per total number of woman measured^{xix}			In Gaza, there is steady but very high level of anaemia, which gives an alarming indicator of the nutritional situation and poses severe threat to the public health, with an increased risk during the delivery and for the health of the new-born babies. There is no data for the West Bank due to the ongoing MoH employees' strike.	
	Dec 05	NA		NA
	Mar 06	25.6%		22.9%
	Apr 06	25.8%		20.1%
	May 06	30.9%		24.1%
	Jun 06	27.0%		42.9%
	July 06	NA		39.8%
	Aug 06	NA		46.1%
Number of consultations for diarrhoea (refugee children, 0 – 3 years) compared with the corresponding month the previous year^{xx}			Although still higher than last year at the same period, the incidence of diarrhoea is returning to normal seasonal levels. Access to water and electricity has improved over the last two months due to reparations on the electricity network and sewage system.	
	Mar 06/Mar 05	900/786		1,201/1,823
	Apr 06/Apr 05	667/633		860/840
	May 06/May 05	889/690		1,390/1,072
	Jun 06/Jun 05	1,246/993		2,235/1,475
	Jul 06/Jul 05	887/894		1,868/1,196
	Aug 06/Aug 05	NA		1,667/1,310
Number of caesarean births in MoH hospitals^{xxi}			No data was available for the months of August and September due to the ongoing strike.	
	Mar 06	NA		331
	Apr 06	448		290
	May 06	397		335
	Jun 06	420		333
	Jul 06	458		416
	Aug 06	NA		NA
	Sep 06	NA		NA

For more information please contact WHO, Dr. Silvia Pivetta (WHO office in the Gaza Strip, (08) 282 2033) and/or Dr. Mohammad Shajahan (WHO office in Jerusalem, (02) 540 0595)



Child protection and psychosocial support²

Indicator	Data		Summary trends
	West Bank	Gaza Strip	
Number of Palestinian children killed in direct relation with the conflict^{xxii 3}	Jan 06	1	Ten Palestinian children were killed in September 2006, bringing the total number of Palestinian children killed this year to 90 (compared to 31 as of 30 September 2005).
	Feb 06	4	
	Mar 06	2	
	Apr 06	3	
	May 06	0	
	Jun 06	0	
	Jul 06	4	
	Aug 06	1	
	Sep 06	1	
	Number of Palestinian children injured in direct relation with the conflict^{xxiii}	Jan 06	
Feb 06		32	
Mar 06		23	
Apr 06		27	
May 06		16	
Jun 06		26	
Jul 06		78	
Aug 06		48	
Sep 06		27	
Number of Palestinian children held in detention by the Israeli authorities^{xxiv}		oPt	Although no drastic change occurred between August and September, the number of Palestinian children held in detention in September is still 30% higher than the 2005 average (300)
	Jan 06	319	
	Apr 06	371	
	May 06	377	
	Jun 06	359	
	Jul 06	335	
	Aug 06	391 (227)	
	Sep 06	389	
Number of adults who have received mental health treatments through Ministry of Health^{xxv}		oPt	1,163 adults have received mental health treatment in the Gaza and Hebron community mental health centre. This figure is <u>not</u> comparable with previous months as the Tulkarm centre is closed due to the ongoing PA employee strike and the Ramallah centre is functioning partially. Functioning centres do not accept any new cases.
	Feb 06	2,098	
	Apr 06	2,324	
	May 06	2,356	
	Jun 06	2,131	
	Jul 06	2,447	
	Aug 06	1,754 (partial)	
Sep 06	1,163 (partial)		

For more information please contact UNICEF, (02) 583 0013 (Anne Grandjean).

² UNICEF, OCHA and DCI have reviewed the casualties' figures to ensure the accuracy of the data provided and sort the litigious issues.

³ The number of Palestinian children include the number of deaths caused by: direct conflict, indirect conflict, Palestinian-Palestinian violence and reckless use of weapons. All 2006 figures have been updated accordingly.



Education

Indicator	Data			Summary trends
		West Bank	Gaza Strip	
Number of schools where there was a least one day of disruption ^{xxvi}	Feb 06	16: - Nablus (13) - Jenin (2) - Tulkarm (1)	No full schools days disrupted.	<p>Since 2 September 2006, MOEHE staff as well as teachers are “on open strike” in the entire West Bank.</p> <p>Education Directorates and schools, in the West Bank, are closed and locked after several violent incidents happened in their vicinity.</p> <p>In Gaza Strip, the strike was carried out from 2 to 8 September, by teachers and not by MOEHE staff. The strike has been suspended on 9 September 2006 in Gaza and children were able to go back to their schools.</p>
	Mar 06	40: - Nablus (10) - Hebron (9) - Jericho (7) - Jenin (6) - Jerusalem (6) - Qalqiliya (2)	9 (Khan Younis ^{xxvii})	
	Apr 06	31: - Nablus (29) - Jenin (2)	4 (Khan Younis ^{xxviii})	
	May 06	21: - Jenin (12) - Hebron (3) - Jericho (2) - Nablus (1) - Tulkarm (3).	No full schools days disrupted.	
	Jun 06	Not applicable	Not applicable	
	Jul 06	Not applicable	Not applicable	
	Aug 06	Not applicable	Not applicable	
	Sep 06	30 in total	6 in total	

For more information please contact UNICEF, (02) 583 0013 (Shao Potung) and UNESCO, (02) 295 9740 (Megumi Watanabe).



Food security

Indicator	Data								Summary trends			
Price of basic commodities (NIS)^{xxix}	Sept 05	WB	83.6	16.8	3.8	5.7	4.8	2.7	24	<p>Food prices have slightly fluctuated in the oPt in September compared to August. The average cost of the food commodities followed by the H.M increased by 1.12 % in Gaza Strip (milk excluded) and decreased by 0.5% in the West Bank.</p> <p>The biggest variation concerned sugar in the GS (+13.5% compared to August), likely to reflect the increased demand ahead of Ramadan. Milk powder was not available in the Gaza Strip in September.</p>		
		GS	71.6	19.5	3.5	5.4	4.5	2.6	NA			
	Jun 06	WB	90	19	3.1	5.7	5.4	4	23.5			
		GS	74.8	21.4	3.3	5.7	5.8	3.7	29.7			
	July 06	WB	88.9	19	3.6	5.1	4.2	3.6	23.5			
		GS	82.3	22.6	3	5.2	5.4	4	29.6			
	Aug 06	WB	90	20	3.6	5.3	4.2	3.6	23.5			
		GS	79.5	23.7	3.2	5.4	5.2	3.24	47			
	Sep 06	WB	87.9	20.4	3.7	5.6	4.8	3.5	23.5			
		GS	81	23.15	3.3	5.25	5.21	3.68	NA			
	Availability of basic commodities^{xxx} In Gaza Strip	Jun 06	Wheat flour		7,502	Sugar	205	Rice	1,350		Vegetable oil	<p>No information was available for August and September 2006. Due to the PA employees strike, data on food imports could not be fully collected.</p>
			Available storage (tonnes)		7,502	205	1,350	800				
		Days of coverage		17	2	19	19					
		July 06	Available storage (tonnes)		5,689	840	1,315	810				
Days of coverage			13	8	18	19						
Aug 06		Available storage (tonnes)		NA	NA	NA	NA					
		Days of coverage		NA	NA	NA	NA					
Sep 06		Available storage (tonnes)		NA	NA	NA	NA					
	Days of coverage		NA	NA	NA	NA						
Number of tonnes of food per month imported into the Gaza Strip^{xxxi}		Wheat flour	Rice	Veg. Oil	Sugar	Veg. and fruits	Other food commodities	Total	<p>Due to the PA employees strike, data on food imports could not be fully collected.</p>			
	Jun 06	4,460	144	661	1,121	2,117	300	8,803				
	July 06	9,158	1,998	1,229	4,996	3,508	274	21,163				
	Aug 06	NA	182	323	763	NA	NA	NA				
	Sep 06	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA				
Number of social hardship case families receiving their monthly cash subsidies from Ministry of Social Affairs^{xxxii}		West Bank			Gaza Strip			<p>35,081 Social Hard Ship Cases received a NIS 1,500 allowance through the TIM.</p>				
	Jan 06	19,406			17,779							
	Apr 06	0			0							
	May 06	0			0							
	Jun 06	0			0							
	Jul 06	19,815			20,474							
	Aug 06	0			0							
Sep 06	17,798			17,283 ⁴								
Fishing catch in the Gaza Strip (in tonnes)^{xxxiii} compared to 2005	July 05	75							<p>Since 25 June, the Israeli authorities have prevented fishing off the Gaza Strip coastline although fishermen have ventured out</p>			
	April 06	226.5 (131)										
	May 06	880 (242)										
	Jun 06	291 (150)										
	Jul 06	0 (75)										
	Aug 06	101 (241)										
	Sep 06	203.2 (160)										

For more information please contact WFP, (02) 540 1340 (Salah Lahham).



Agriculture

Indicator	Data		Summary trends	
	West Bank	Gaza Strip		
Number of tonnes of agricultural produce imports in the oPt^{xxxiv}	Jun 05	NA	Due to the ongoing strike, no data is available.	
	Apr 06	NA		
	May 06	NA		
	Jun 06	NA		
	Jul 06	NA		
	Aug 06	NA		
	Sep 06	NA		
Number of tonnes of agricultural produce exports from the oPt^{xxxvi}	Jun 05	NA	Due to the ongoing strike, no data is available.	
	Apr 06	NA		
	May 06	NA		
	Jun 06	NA		
	Jul 06	NA		
	Aug 06	NA		
	Sep 06	NA		
Number of dunums of agricultural land destroyed/requisitioned (-) and land reclaimed (+)^{xxxvii}	Jun 05	NA	Due to the PA employees strike, data on land destruction/requisitions could not be collected.	
	Apr 06	-534/+510		
	May 06	-306,+167		
	Jun 06	-310/+338		
	Jul 06	-45/+265		-3,666/+0
	Aug 06	NA		NA
	Sep 06	NA		NA
Number of dunums of land covered by greenhouses destroyed (-) and built/rehabilitated (+)^{xxxviii}	Jun 05	NA	Due to the PA employees strike, data on greenhouses destruction could not be collected.	
	Apr 06	-0/+89		
	May 06	-0/+100		
	Jun 06	-0/+145		
	Jul 06	-0/+24		-179/+0
	Aug 06	NA		NA
	Sep 06	NA		NA
Number of confirmed avian influenza outbreaks^{xxxix}	Jan 06	0	No new outbreak of avian influenza has been reported or detected since April 2006. At of the end of April, 345,986 birds had been culled in 38 commercial farms in the Gaza Strip and in the backyard holdings in the West Bank (an additional 5,861 birds were culled in an Israeli settlement in the West Bank).	
	Feb 06	0		
	Mar/Apr 06	1 (in an Israeli settlement)		7
	May 06	0		0
	Jun 06	0		0
	Jul 06	0		0
	Aug 06	0		0
	Sep 06	0		0

For more information please contact FAO, (02) 532 1950 (Rana Hannoun or Azzam Saleh).



Water and sanitation

Indicator ^{xi}	Data			Summary trends
		West Bank	Gaza Strip	
Per capita water use (litre/per day)	Baseline (2005) ^{xii}	86	95	The reduction in the daily use of water is partly seasonal, and aggravated by the on-going drought in the southern West Bank.
	Current Situation	66	81	
	Figure provided for NAF – Aug 06	58	81	Figures for the Gaza Strip have not been updated and do not reflect possible reductions due to limited power in the Gaza Strip since the beginning of the 'Operation Summer Rains' on 28 June.
Price of tankered water (price of one cubic meter transported through Israel in New Israeli shekels)		West Bank	Gaza Strip	In the West Bank, there has been a 3.6 NIS rise in the price of tankered water.
	Baseline (2005)	11.4	NA	
	Current Situation	15	NA	
Percentage cost recovery of water bills by Village Councils and Municipalities		West Bank	Gaza Strip	In the West Bank, percentage cost recovery has fallen by 25%. The decline has been more marked in the Gaza Strip with a fall of over 50% in cost recovery.
	Baseline (2005) ^{xiii}	75%	75%	
	Current Situation	49.7%	22.3%	

For more information please contact UNICEF, Hubert Oribon (02) 583 013 or Palestinian Hydrology Group, (02) 532 4355 (Dr. Ayman Rabi)

End Notes

Protection of civilians and access

ⁱ Source: *OCHA, Weekly Briefing Notes*

ⁱⁱ The figures reported are 'direct conflict related casualties' and do not include casualties indirectly related to the conflict such as incidents involving unexploded ordnances, traffic accidents between Israelis and Palestinians in the oPt, deaths after medical access was denied at checkpoints or during curfews/military operations. The figures also do not include casualties when the circumstances remain unclear or are in dispute. In August, an additional nine Palestinians were killed and 13 injured in indirect conflict related incidents.

ⁱⁱⁱ Source: *OCHA, Weekly Briefing Notes*

^{iv} Source: *Ministry of Labour, closure reports*. These figures include weekends i.e. Saturdays, when they fall within a comprehensive closure period.

^v Source: *OCHA*. The following categories of Palestinians were exempted from this general closure: (1) workers from international organisations; (2) medical staff; (3) humanitarian cases; and (4) Palestinians with legal issues i.e. needing to attend court in Israel

^{vi} Source: *UN, Implementation of the Agreement on Movement and Access biweekly report*. OCHA compiles several times a year a comprehensive count of physical obstacles to Palestinian movement in the West Bank. The figures reported in this document are based on OCHA field observations only.

^{vii} Source: *UNRWA, West Bank Monthly Reports* and *OCHA, ACIS forms*



Job creation and cash assistance

^{viii} Source: *PCBS, Quarterly Labour Force Survey*. In the context of protracted crisis, the standard unemployment definition can be deficient as a considerable number of people are no longer seeking employment. A 'relaxed definition' of unemployment is calculated by adding the total number of unemployed people according to ILO standards and the number of people no longer engaged in active job search.

^{ix} According to PCBS, the improvement can be attributed to the emergency unemployment programme conducted by the MoL and also school and university students have joined the labour market during their summer holiday.

^x Source: *PCBS, Labour Force Survey*. The indicator was designed according to ILO standards and refers to all persons aged 15 and above who during the reference week (i) were in paid employment or self-employment for at least one hour; or (ii) did not work, but held a job from which they were temporarily absent. Numbers include both West Bank ID holders and Palestinians with Israeli ID.

^{xi} According to PCBS, less than 1,000 Palestinians from the Gaza Strip were employed in Israel and settlements during the last quarter of 2005. The exact number is not available for the reporting period.

^{xii} Source: *Palestinian National Security Forces*. 2000 data obtained from UNSCO. The average daily labour movement is calculated excluding weekends i.e. Fridays and Saturdays except when they fall over a comprehensive closure period.

^{xiii} Source: *IUED, Palestinian Public Perceptions Polls No. 3, 9 and 10*. IUED objective poverty measure is based on the reported household income, taking into account the number of adults and children in the household. Poverty rates for the West Bank include East Jerusalem. The poverty line is calculated using the PCBS poverty line of 2,216 NIS for 2006 for a family of six (two adults and four children) per month. Since 2001, UN agencies in the oPt have funded the IUED to conduct a poll on Palestinian perceptions of their living conditions. This data can be used to analyse changes in the situation over time and is one of the few sources of currently available information on the situation in 2006. PCBS projections estimate that in Q2 2006, 67% of households would be in poverty, according to income based definitions (*Poverty in the Palestinian Territories, 2005*).

^{xiv} Source: *IUED, Palestinian Public Perceptions Reports No. 3, 9 and 10*.

^{xv} Source: *UNRWA, West Bank Job Creation Programme*.

Health

^{xvi} Source: *Central Drug Store, Ministry of Health*. Drugs 'out of stock' refers to stock levels of less than one month's requirement for 416 items.

^{xvii} Source: *Primary Health Care Directorate, West Bank and Gaza Strip, Ministry of Health Nutrition Department*. Two different methods are used in the West Bank and the Gaza Strip to measure underweight. The 5th percentile is being used in the West Bank as a cut off point while the -2 standard deviation is used since June 06 in the Gaza Strip. Both data are collected at clinic level and may not give a representative picture of the nutritional situation. Rather, they can serve as an early indicator of a change/deterioration in the nutritional situation.

^{xviii} Source: *PCBS/DHS (2004)*

^{xix} Source: *Primary Health Care Directorate, West Bank and Gaza Strip, Ministry of Health Mother and Child Health Department*. This indicator can be interpreted the same way as the percentage of children underweight.

^{xx} Source: *UNRWA Epidemiology Department, West Bank and Gaza Strip Field Offices*. An increase in consultations for diarrhea is related to increased poor quality of water, which suggests that environmental health programmes run by the Ministry of Health and Municipalities are not coping with the need, specifically in water and sanitation programmes. Monthly figures are compared to the corresponding month in the previous year due to seasonal diarrhoea trends.

^{xxi} Source: *Hospital Directorate, West Bank and Gaza Strip*. The number of cesarean births is used to measure the extra load on maternity wards, assuming the number of beds and personnel is constant.

Child protection and psychosocial support

^{xxii} Source: *OCHA, Weekly Briefing Notes and DCI-PS*

^{xxiii} Source: *OCHA, Weekly Briefing Notes*

^{xxiv} Source: *Ministry of Detainee's Affairs*

^{xxv} Source: *Ministry of Health, collected by WHO*. Based on a sample of four community mental health centres (in Ramallah, Hebron, Tulkarm and Gaza).

Education

^{xxvi} Source: *Ministry of Education*

^{xxvii} Schools were disrupted in Khan Younis (Gaza Strip) during demonstrations etc following the incident at the Jericho prison on 14 March.

^{xxviii} Schools were disrupted in Khan Younis (Gaza Strip) during Palestinian funerals.



Food security

^{xxxix} Source: *WFP, Market Monitoring*. The VAM Market Price Survey is the primary means by which WFP collects commodity prices in the local markets. The market price data is collected in the first week of each month from shops in all governorates in the West Bank and Gaza Strip.

^{xxxix} Source: *Ministry of National Economy*.

^{xxxix} Source: *PalTrade*.

^{xxxix} Source: *Ministry of Social Affairs*

^{xxxix} Source: *Ministry of Agriculture*. Although seasonal fishing catch is an important indicator in the Gaza Strip as it gives an overview about the availability of the cheapest animal protein in the Gaza Strip, especially if there are future Avian Influenza incidents.

Agriculture

^{xxxiv} Source: *PalTrade*

^{xxxv} This number was revised following new information supplied by PalTrade.

^{xxxvi} Source: *PalTrade*

^{xxxvii} Source: *Agricultural directorates, Ministry of Agriculture*

^{xxxviii} Source: *Agricultural directorates, Ministry of Agriculture*

^{xxxix} Source: *Ministry of Agriculture*

Water and sanitation

^{xi} Source: *Palestine Hydrology Group, Water and Sanitation, Hygiene (WaSH) Monitoring Program*. The data is calculated on the basis of 60 Palestinian communities in the West Bank and Gaza Strip surveyed on a monthly basis.

^{xii} Assuming an average of 90 litres (pre-Intifada).

^{xiii} Assuming cost recovery at 75% (pre-Intifada).