

# HUMANITARIAN BULLETIN MONTHLY REPORT

SEPTEMBER 2015



## HIGHLIGHTS

- Import restrictions impede delivery of services and humanitarian assistance in Gaza.
- Barrier construction resumes in Bethlehem
- Highest number of structures demolished in West Bank in a single month in five years

## Overview

In mid-September, confrontations erupted between Palestinian protestors and Israeli police in the Al Aqsa Mosque (Haram Al-Sharif/Temple Mount), in the Old City of East Jerusalem. The clashes are ongoing, and as of this writing have resulted in dozens of Palestinian injuries, as well as damage to the mosque, and led to wider demonstrations throughout the city. The UN Security Council expressed grave concern over escalating tensions and called for “the exercise of restraint, refraining from provocative actions and rhetoric, and upholding unchanged the historic status quo at the Haram Al-Sharif.”<sup>1</sup> Past UN resolutions have declared Israel’s unilateral annexation of East Jerusalem unlawful.<sup>2</sup>

The Palestinian protests, which had built up for several weeks, took place in the context of access restrictions on the entry of Muslims to the site, alongside increasing number of visits by Israeli groups, including senior Israeli officials and prominent right-wing figures. These visits are viewed by Palestinians as part of an Israeli plan

## IN THIS ISSUE

Gaza Strip: Import restrictions impede delivery of services and humanitarian assistance .....	3
Barrier construction in Bethlehem resumes .....	5
Rising tensions following settlement expansion in Palestinian neighbourhood of East Jerusalem.....	7
Health and Nutrition Cluster performance – first half of 2015 .....	8
West Bank demolitions and displacement – August 2015 update .....	8

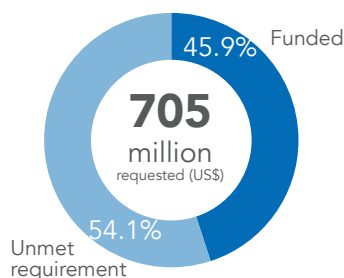
## AUGUST FIGURES

Palestinian civilians killed (direct conflict)	3
Palestinian civilians injured (direct conflict)	195
Structures demolished in the West Bank	145
People displaced in the West Bank	208

## STRATEGIC RESPONSE PLAN 2015

705 million  
requested (US\$)

45.9% funded



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United Nations Office for the Coordination of Humanitarian Affairs occupied Palestinian territory

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Coordination Saves Lives



to change the status quo regarding the Haram Al-Sharif/Temple Mount. This intent has been denied by the Israeli authorities.

The Israeli authorities viewed Palestinian protests within the Compound as aggression against Jewish worshippers particularly during the current Jewish high holidays. After an Israeli man was killed in a stone-throwing incident in East Jerusalem, Israeli Prime Minister Netanyahu said his government would change open-fire orders and increase minimum sentences for such offenses, as well as imposing heavy fines on the parents of minors who commit these offenses.

Tensions in East Jerusalem have also been recently exacerbated by settlement expansion in Palestinian neighborhoods. As highlighted in this Humanitarian Bulletin, on 26 August and 1 September, Israeli settlers, under police escort, moved into two residential buildings, reportedly sold by the Palestinian owners, in the heart of the Silwan neighborhood.

August also witnessed the highest number of Palestinian structures demolished by the Israeli authorities in the West Bank (including East Jerusalem) in a single month in five years: 145 structures in 37 communities. Over 200 people were displaced, with six Bedouin communities in Jerusalem periphery accounting for close to seventy per cent of those displaced. These communities are among 46 communities identified as at heightened risk of forcible transfer due to a “relocation” plan advanced by the Israeli authorities.

On a positive note, the volume of construction materials entering Gaza significantly increased; overall, more than 10,000 truckloads of goods entered into the Gaza Strip via the Israeli-controlled Kerem Shalom crossing, the highest number ever recorded through this crossing. This increase can be largely attributed to an increase in the number of truckloads of construction materials that entered Gaza through the Gaza Reconstruction Mechanism, which doubled compared to the monthly average since the beginning of 2015.

This development is tempered by an increase in the number of restricted items defined by the Israeli authorities as “dual” civilian/military-use items, which are prohibited from being imported into Gaza without special authorization. The range of items on the list is far broader than what is internationally recognized as “dual use” items and includes items such as basic construction materials, medical equipment, materials needed for emergency preparedness and response to emergencies by first responders such as the Palestinian Civil Defence, etc. In his monthly briefing to the Security Council, the UN Special Coordinator for the Middle East Peace Process warned that “restrictions on imports of goods defined as having a “dual use” continue to impede humanitarian, recovery and reconstruction efforts.”<sup>3</sup>

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*More than 10,000 truckloads of goods entered into the Gaza Strip via the Israeli-controlled Kerem Shalom crossing, the highest number ever recorded through this crossing*

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## GAZA STRIP: IMPORT RESTRICTIONS IMPEDE DELIVERY OF SERVICES AND HUMANITARIAN ASSISTANCE

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### List of items restricted as “dual” civilian-military use expanded

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Following the easing of the blockade on the Gaza Strip in mid-2010, all goods could be imported, with the exception of items defined by the Israeli government as dual-use,<sup>4</sup> i.e. “weapons and items which can be, and often are, used for military purposes”, according to the Israeli Ministry of Defense.<sup>5</sup>

Israel maintains two lists of items restricted as “dual” civilian-military use, including one list specifically relating to Gaza.<sup>6</sup> This is in keeping with the international standard to prevent the transfer of certain items. However, the lists are more inclusive than existing international lists.<sup>7</sup> According to the Israeli authorities, the restrictions are justified as many items, including “electronic and electric equipment, communications equipment, and industrial raw materials, are used to rebuild and upgrade offensive tunnels leading to Israel; to manufacture weapons, particularly rockets; and to create technological combat support units.”<sup>8</sup>

For the second time this year, the Israeli authorities revised the list of goods classified as “dual-use” (civilian and military) items banned from import into Gaza without special authorization.<sup>9</sup> In February, screening machines, including X-ray machines were added and more items were added in August, including wooden boards thicker than 1cm (as opposed to 5cm previously). The latter was added as wood had reportedly been used by armed groups for tunnel construction.

These import restrictions impede the delivery of humanitarian assistance, basic services and reconstruction programs, and undermine the response capacity for emergencies. For example, some categories on the list, such as drilling equipment or telecommunications equipment, are very broad. In addition, the list does not differentiate between items that are permitted entry following special authorization and those that are strictly prohibited (e.g. steel rods that exceed certain dimensions). In practice, some items are treated as dual-use items even though they are not explicitly included in the list (e.g. solar panels and some batteries).

The inclusion of basic construction materials, including cement, gravel and metal bars, as dual-use items has severely impeded repairs and the reconstruction of homes and basic infrastructure. Shortages of some items critical to the health sector, including x-ray machines, items with a chemical content such as disinfectants, UPS (uninterrupted power supply) units used to ensure the unbroken functioning of life-saving equipment, and materials needed to safely dispose of poultry affected by avian influenza, have had a detrimental effect on the delivery of basic health services and undermined the prevention of public health risks.

Import restrictions also apply to a range of items vital to the Palestinian Civil Defence and other actors responding to emergencies, such as ambulances, drilling and lifting equipment, cranks and water pumps required to respond to flooding. While international

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*Israel maintains two lists of items restricted as “dual” civilian-military use, including one list specifically relating to Gaza*

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## HUMANITARIAN PROJECT TO ERECT TEMPORARY SHELTERS ON HOLD DUE TO RESTRICTIONS ON WOOD IMPORTS

Over the past year, Catholic Relief Services (CRS) installed 254 prefabricated wooden housing units to serve as transitional shelter solutions for over 2,000 individuals whose homes were completely destroyed during the 2014 hostilities in the Gaza Strip. These units can provide displaced families with a dignified transitional shelter that is culturally and socially appropriate. Erected on land belonging to the displaced family, the units have easy access to basic services available in the family's original location, and ease the process of rebuilding permanent homes.

The recent additional restrictions on the entry of wood into Gaza have severely impeded this transitional shelter response. Although the Israeli authorities had previously approved a further 221 wooden shelters by CRS, in early July a truck carrying wooden panels (4.4 cm thick) was turned back at Kerem Shalom crossing. A month later, another shipment of wood was rejected at the crossing on the grounds that all wood over 1cm thick is restricted. An application by CRS for the import of wood through the Gaza Reconstruction Mechanism is pending. CRS estimates that the associated costs to date amount to at least \$US 10,000 (and growing) in lost staff time, shipping costs, and the procurement of materials available on the local market.

In the interim, CRS has procured materials available on the local market and has made some modifications to the shelter design. This has enabled them to complete the construction of the 254 units. Another 150 transitional shelters scheduled to be erected for the benefit of 150 highly vulnerable families by December are now on hold and, if the restrictions remain in place, these families risk spending another winter homeless and exposed to the elements in the rubble of their destroyed homes.

*The recent additional restrictions on the entry of wood into Gaza have severely impeded this transitional shelter response*



© Photo by Shareef Sarhan for CRS

agencies have managed to import some items into Gaza with authorization from the Israeli authorities, the approval process, monitoring and storage requirements have proven burdensome and have delayed implementation and increased costs.

## BARRIER CONSTRUCTION IN BETHLEHEM RESUMES

### Negative impact on access to livelihoods and services

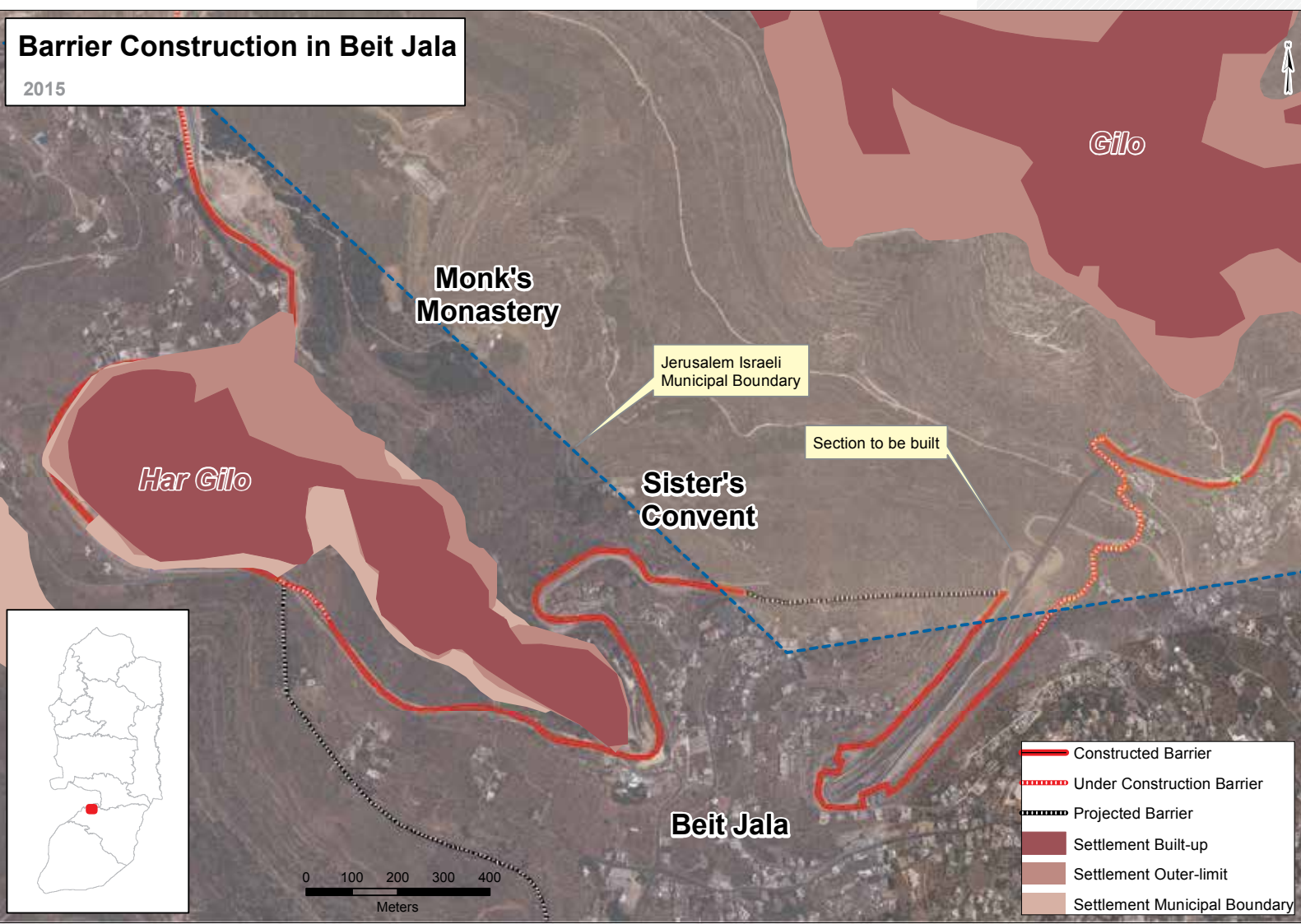
On 17 August, the Israeli authorities resumed construction of a section of the Barrier in the Cremisan valley extending from Beit Jala to the village of Al Walaja in Bethlehem governorate. Construction has resulted in the uprooting of ancient olive trees (see box) and the resumption of local protests. Based on previous experience in other West Bank areas, there is concern that agriculture-based livelihoods in the Cremisan area will be eroded.<sup>10</sup>

Once complete, the Barrier will separate 58 Palestinian farming families from approximately 3,000 dunams of land planted with olive groves, fig and almond orchards, and the only recreational green space in the area surrounding the Cremisan monastery and convent.<sup>11</sup> The Barrier may also impact the access of 450 children in the Bethlehem area to education provided by the local Salesian religious order: the institutions run by the Cremisan convent include a primary school (up to 8th grade), a kindergarten, and a school for children with learning difficulties.

*The Barrier will separate 58 Palestinian farming families from approximately 3,000 dunams of land.*

### Barrier Construction in Beit Jala

2015



*There are 85 agricultural gates along the length of the completed Barrier, of these, only nine open daily.*

The affected families have repeatedly challenged the route of the Barrier in the Cremisan area before the Israeli High Court of Justice (HCJ). The petitioners argue that the route will damage the fabric of their communities, will cause environmental damage to historic agricultural terraces, and contravenes international human rights and humanitarian law (see box herein). The petitioners also claim that the route was designed to bring Har Gilo settlement to the 'Israeli' side of the Barrier and connect it to Gilo settlement in East Jerusalem. Both settlements were constructed on land belonging to Bethlehem.

In April 2015, the HCJ issued its final decision requesting that the State of Israel consider alternative routes to ensure connectivity between the two religious institutions and between them and Bethlehem and Beit Jala. Later that month, the petitioners were informed that the Israeli authorities would start construction of a section of the Barrier, but would leave a small opening to ensure access to and from the monastery and convent. The Israeli Ministry of Defence has also committed to install an 'agricultural gate' in the Barrier to allow farmers access to their land. An appeal filed in June to halt construction was overturned.

According to the State: "The areas of the security fence which remain incomplete, such as the 1,500 meters of the Cremisan valley, are among the most sensitive areas between Israel and the West Bank from a security viewpoint, and are currently being exploited for infiltration by terrorist cells and criminal elements."<sup>13</sup>

At present, there are 85 agricultural gates along the length of the completed Barrier. Of these, only nine open daily and the majority (63) only open for a few weeks during the annual olive harvest. Farmers in approximately 150 communities with land isolated between the Barrier and the Green Line are obliged to apply for 'prior coordination' or obtain special permits to access their farming land and water resources through a designated gate. The limited allocation of access permits, together with the restricted number and opening times of the Barrier gates, continues to severely curtail agricultural practices and undermine rural livelihoods throughout the West Bank.

#### THE INTERNATIONAL COURT OF JUSTICE ON THE BARRIER

On 9 July 2004, the International Court of Justice (ICJ) issued an advisory opinion on the Legal Consequences of the Construction of a Wall in the Occupied Palestinian Territory. The ICJ recognized that Israel "has to face numerous indiscriminate and deadly acts of violence against its civilian population" and that it "has the right, and indeed the duty, to respond in order to protect the life of its citizens. [However], the measures taken are bound nonetheless to remain in conformity with applicable international law."

The ICJ stated that the sections of the Barrier route which ran inside the West Bank, including East Jerusalem, violated Israel's obligations under international law. The ICJ called on Israel to cease construction of the Barrier "including in and around East Jerusalem"; dismantle the sections already completed; and "repeal or render ineffective forthwith all legislative and regulatory acts relating thereto".<sup>12</sup>

The Court's Advisory Opinion stated that UN member states should not recognize the illegal situation created by the Barrier and should ensure Israel's compliance with international law. UN General Assembly Resolution ES-10/15 of 20 July 2004 demanded that Israel comply with its legal obligations as stated in the ICJ opinion.



## “MY OLIVE TREES ARE WORTH MORE THAN MONEY”

On the morning of 17 August, Issa al-Shatleh of Beit Jala was informed by a neighbour that the Israeli authorities were uprooting his olive trees. Some 30 olive trees, the majority of them hundreds of years old, were uprooted to make way for the route of the Barrier in the Cremisan area. “Each of these olive trees can yield 16 kilograms of good olive oil, enough for me and my four brothers. But it is more than the monetary value. These trees are hundreds of years old, planted by my ancestors. I have so many memories of both good and bad times associated with them since I was a boy.”

Although the trees were replanted by the Israeli authorities, Issa complains, “Look how close together they are. Some of them have been replanted on my neighbour’s land”. Asked if they will survive and bear fruit in the forthcoming olive harvest, he shrugs.

Issa’s land lies under the bridge that forms part of the rerouting of Road 60 in 1994 to enable settlers to travel between Jerusalem and Hebron and bypass Bethlehem. Part of his land was used by the excavators and bulldozers and trees were damaged. He also lost some trees in 2008 when another section of the Barrier was built in the area.

Issa says that he did not receive official notification from the Israeli authorities to inform him that his land was being requisitioned to build the Barrier. He also expressed concern about the proposed gate system that the Israeli authorities claim will guarantee him access to land soon to be isolated by the Barrier, given the experience of farmers in the rest of the West Bank. “This Wall is contrary to international law,” he insists, citing the International Court of Justice advisory opinion. He points to the nearby Gilo and Har Gilo settlements. “It’s all about the settlements.”

*Palestinian residents of Silwan suffer from overcrowding, inadequate services, and threat of demolition and displacement due to unauthorized construction.*

## RIISING TENSIONS FOLLOWING SETTLEMENT EXPANSION IN PALESTINIAN NEIGHBOURHOOD OF EAST JERUSALEM

Concern over further deterioration in the living conditions of Palestinian residents

Settlement expansion in Silwan has generated tension and violence in recent years. It has further undermined the precarious living conditions of Palestinians, already suffering from overcrowding, inadequate services, and threat of demolition and displacement due to unauthorized construction.

On 26 August and 1 September, Israeli settlers, under police escort, moved into two residential buildings in the heart of the Palestinian neighborhood of Silwan in East Jerusalem. The buildings occupied are believed to have been sold by the Palestinian owners.<sup>14</sup> Settlement activities in the neighbourhood also include archaeological excavations and the operation of the City of David National Park and Visitor’s Centre, which attracts substantial numbers of visitors annually.<sup>15</sup>

The recent settler activities in Silwan were reportedly supported by the settler organization *Ateret Cohanim*, which also spearheads the takeover of Palestinian property in the Muslim Quarter of the Old City. Since 2002, the organization has filed legal claims against an estimated 250 Palestinians in the neighbourhood on the grounds that the

*UNRWA in Gaza managed to provide psychosocial support to more than 400,000 students and patients.*



*This item was provided by the Health and Nutrition Cluster and is part of a series of overviews about the performance of clusters against the objectives set out in the 2015 Strategic Response Plan.*

land and/or property they currently inhabit was owned by Jews prior to 1948.<sup>16</sup> The area affected covers over five dunams and is home to 84 Palestinian families comprising 1,400 individuals. On May of this year, Israeli settlers moved into a building with three separate apartments, displacing three families. In July 2015, another three households received eviction orders from the Israeli authorities, placing seven Palestinians at risk of displacement. The Al Bustan area of Silwan has been designated as an 'open' or 'green' area where all Palestinian construction is prohibited. Al Bustan is the proposed site for a tourist park to be constructed by the Jerusalem Municipality. If this plan goes ahead, more than 1,000 Palestinians residing in approximately 90 houses will lose their homes.<sup>17</sup>

These developments are part of a wider plan for settlement expansion within Palestinian residential areas in the so-called 'Holy Basin' area of East Jerusalem: the Muslim and Christian quarters of the Old City, Silwan, Sheikh Jarrah, At Tur (Mount of Olives), Wadi Joz, Ras al-Amud, and Jabel Mukaber. An estimated 2,000 settlers reside in Palestinian neighborhoods in the Holy Basin area. There is also a government-backed initiative to link these settlements together by creating a series of contiguous parks around the Holy Basin and the eastern slopes of Mount Scopus: the 'Open Spaces' plan.<sup>18</sup>

Settler organizations have taken control of properties in this area using various means, including the Absentee Property Law,<sup>19</sup> alleged prior Jewish ownership and purchase from Palestinian owners. Under Israeli law, Israelis may pursue claims to land and property allegedly owned by Jews in East Jerusalem prior to the establishment of the State of Israel. However, it denies Palestinians the right to reclaim land and property in what is now Israel.

## HEALTH AND NUTRITION CLUSTER PERFORMANCE – FIRST HALF OF 2015

Access to basic healthcare out of reach for many Palestinians in vulnerable communities

Most interventions included in the 2015 Strategic Response Plan (SRP) by members of the Health and Nutrition Cluster aim at achieving strategic objective 4 (one of the Plan's six objectives): to ensure that 1.6 million people (men, women, boys, girls, refugees, no-refugees) across the oPt have access to essential services in areas where access is restricted.<sup>20</sup>



© Photo by WHO

UNRWA in Gaza provided psychosocial support to more than 400,000 students and patients. Mobile health services in the West Bank were not operational in the reporting period but were resumed in August 2015 after receiving funding from the Humanitarian Pooled Fund (HPF). The cluster also collected information on restricted access of vulnerable populations to primary health care and diffused this through the appropriate publications and channels. Health partners also responded to health needs following



## GAZA: INFANT HEALTH JEOPARDIZED BY SHORTAGES IN LABORATORY TESTING MATERIALS

For months, healthcare providers in the Gaza Strip have had insufficient laboratory material for testing two important congenital diseases that could lead to serious development problems—phenylketonuria (PKU) and neonatal hypothyroidism. The tests should be performed within two weeks after birth for immediate interventions. Roughly 5,000 tests are needed every month. However, because of the lack of new supplies of lab materials, the Ministry of Health (MoH) in Gaza has been forced to store screening samples due to months-long shortages of the necessary lab reagents. There is currently a backlog of 30,000 blood samples taken from Gaza newborns.

With a few exceptions, when emergency testing material supplies were used, pediatricians are receiving test results four to five months after birth, which delays the start of treatment when needed. According to Dr. Iman, a pediatrician in Al Rimal Clinic in Gaza city, which tests all samples in the Gaza Strip, two-thirds of which are from UNRWA clinics, priority for testing is being given for “infants from families who are known carriers for either condition, rather than putting them on the waiting list.” However, not even priority cases are currently being tested. PKU screenings in the West Bank have been stopped since August due to laboratory shortages of reagents.

The Ministry of Health appeals frequently to UN agencies and donors for emergency supplies but such procurements cannot be either timely or sustainable. In May 2015 the MoH in Gaza appealed to UNICEF for an emergency shipment of the testing kits, which are not expected to arrive before November.

This situation takes place in the context of continuous shortages in medicines and medical supplies at public health facilities, more pronounced in Gaza, but also significant in the West Bank, as a result of funding gaps in the Ministry of Health in Ramallah. In August, 28 per cent of essential drugs (and 36 per cent of medical disposables) were at zero stock level in Gaza; shortages were particularly high for laboratory reagents (40 per cent). The MoH in Ramallah reported that 19% of essential and complementary drugs (102 of 547 items) were at zero stock in the West Bank, which supplies Gaza facilities as well. The average drug zero stock for 2015 in the West Bank was 23%.

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*Shortages of drugs and disposables in Gaza negatively impacts the delivery of health services.*

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home demolitions in Area C in cases where a health need was identified through assessments.

Shortages of drugs and disposables in Gaza (average of 30 per cent over the past five years, and up to 50 per cent in medical disposables) negatively impacts the delivery of health services, contribute to the deterioration of patients suffering from diseases such as cancer and heart conditions, and increases the need for more costly referrals outside Gaza.

Nevertheless, there were major gaps in service provision, with only 30 per cent of the targeted beneficiaries reached. Cluster objective one (see table below) was achieved partially due to limited funding. Progress against cluster objective two was better; there were however, major gaps in training of staff with only 43 per cent of the targeted beneficiaries reached. Carrying out health awareness (mostly activities in Gaza) on nutrition, reproductive health and emergency at the community exceeds the targeted group estimated number.

## WEST BANK DEMOLITIONS AND DISPLACEMENT – AUGUST 2015 UPDATE

Five-year high in West Bank demolitions by Israeli Civil Administration

August 2015 registered the highest number of structures demolished by the Israeli authorities in a single month in five years (since July 2010). Overall, a total of 145 Palestinian-owned structures were demolished in 37 residential areas, including 32 in Area C, four in East Jerusalem, and one in Area A. Over 200 people were displaced and more than 400 otherwise affected. The number of people displaced in August was roughly 360 per cent higher than the monthly average from January – July 2015 (approx. 45 persons displaced per month).

The total number of structures demolished since the beginning of 2015 increased by almost 12 per cent in comparison with the equivalent period in 2014. However, despite the increase in the number demolished structures, overall from January – August 2015, the number of people that were displaced due to demolitions actually decreased by almost 37 per cent in comparison with the equivalent period in 2014.

Of the 145 structures demolished this month, 33 were residential, 22 were partially built or uninhabited residences, 14 were water and sanitation facilities, 60 were used for agriculture and other livelihoods needs, and four were infrastructure-related structures. Close to 50 per cent of all demolitions, and almost seventy per cent of displacements were in six Bedouin communities in the central West Bank, which are at risk of forcible transfer due to a “relocation” plan advanced by the Israeli authorities. The proposed locations raise serious humanitarian concerns: availability of grazing land is limited, and the relocation would undermine the traditional livelihoods and culture of the communities, as was the case for 150 Bedouin families who were relocated from this area in the late 1990s. One of the sites is also located next to a refuse dump site, raising serious health concerns.

Ten of the structures demolished this month, all of them in Area C, were internationally- funded, including one animal shelters in Al Khader (Bethlehem), three tents in Fasayil Al Wusta (Jericho), two tents in Az Zaayyem (Jericho), and four latrines in Wadi Sneysel (Jerusalem).

On 11 August, the Head of COGAT gave a briefing to the Knesset’s



Wadi Sneysel, Demolitions resulting in three families displaced, August 2015.

*August 2015 registered the highest number of structures demolished by the Israeli authorities in a single month in five years since July 2010.*

Defense Subcommittee for Judea and Samaria Affairs. Some committee members associated with the settler movement raised allegations of COGAT's "lack of law enforcement" against Palestinian illegal construction in Area C and international funding of this construction.<sup>21</sup>

Also this month, a two-storey building located in Area A was destroyed by Israeli forces during a search and arrest operation in Jenin refugee camp. The building was home to one of the targets of the operation, who is allegedly a member of an armed faction. Four people were displaced, including two children, and an adjacent home was also damaged. While the destruction of structures where suspects take refuge and refuse to surrender is part of a formal military procedure (dubbed "pressure cooker"), in this instance the wanted man was not present. From January 2014 - August 2015, Israeli forces destroyed thirteen homes in military operations in the West Bank.

## ENDNOTES

1. UNSC, Press Statement on Situation in Jerusalem, SC/12052-PAL/2196, 17 SEPTEMBER 2015
2. Inter alia, resolutions 252, 267, 456, 476 & 478.
3. Special Coordinator for the Middle East Peace Process, Briefing to the Security Council on the Situation in the Middle East, 15 September 2015, <http://www.unsco.org/Documents/Statements/MSCB/2008/Security%20Council%20Briefing%20-%2015%20September%202015.pdf>
4. Prior to the flotilla of 2010, the Israeli authorities only allowed items into Gaza that were on a list of approved items. This was a very restrictive list of some 80 items containing mainly basic food stuffs, household and medical items. As part of the easings after the flotilla incident, the Israeli authorities changed their policy to allow in all items except those on the "dual-use lists".
5. Israel Ministry of Defense, Instructions regarding the ban on bringing items into the Gaza Strip, 3 August 2015.
6. One was issued in 2008 as part of legislation that covers the entire oPt; there is also a specific Gaza list issued by the Israeli Security Cabinet based on recommendations by the Israeli Security Agency (also known as Shabak).
7. The internationally recognized list is the Wassenaar Arrangement on Export Controls for Conventional Arms and Dual-Use Goods and Technologies.
8. Israel Security Agency, *Massive Unlawful Military Buildup Effort by Hamas*, 27 July 2015, <https://www.shabak.gov.il/English/EnTerrorData/Reviews/Pages/SkiraE270715.aspx>
9. The last revision prior to 2015 dates from 2012.
10. See OCHA, Humanitarian Bulletin, February 2014, p.9
11. 1 dunam = 1000 m<sup>2</sup>. In 1967, Beit Jala lost over 3,000 dunams of land that were incorporated into the expanded Jerusalem municipal boundary.
12. ICJ, *Legal Consequences of the Construction of a Wall in the Occupied Palestinian Territory, Advisory Opinion of 9 July 2004, para. 141. The full text of the ICJ opinion can be found at: <http://www.icj-cij.org/docket/index.php?p1=3&p2=4&k=5a&case=131&code=mwp&p3=4>*
13. <http://mfa.gov.il/MFA/AboutIsrael/State/Law/Pages/The-Security-Fence-in-the-Cremisan-Valley-15-Jul-2015.aspx>
14. Given the large number of outstanding demolition orders in Silwan, residents "say that representatives of the settlers approach them and promise that if they sell their real estate to Jews, the legal procedures against them will be dropped". Ir Amim, *Shady Dealings in Silwan*, p. 17. <http://www.ir-amim.org.il/sites/default/files/Silwan-reporteng.pdf>
15. The site attracted 380,000 visitors in 2008 and 270,000 in 2009. *Report of the Nature and Parks Authority for 2009*, p. 79, cited in B'Tselem, *Caution - Children Ahead: The Illegal Behavior of the Police towards Minors in Silwan suspected of Stone Throwing*, December 2010, p. 6. [http://www.btselem.org/Download/201012\\_Caution\\_Children\\_Ahead\\_Eng.pdf](http://www.btselem.org/Download/201012_Caution_Children_Ahead_Eng.pdf)
16. A Jewish Yemenite community lived in the area between the 1880s and 1930s, although the Palestinians targeted claim to have purchased the land from these owners or are renting from the Palestinian purchasers.
17. For further elaboration see OCHA: East Jerusalem : Key Humanitarian Concerns, March 2011, p. 34.
18. Ibid., p. 58.
19. The Absentee Property Law of 1950 was devised to formalize the expropriation of the land and property of Palestinians who were expelled or fled during the 1948 Arab-Israeli war. Although technically applicable to East Jerusalem since 1967, then Attorney General Meir Shamgar ruled against applying the law, although it was used sporadically in the 1980s to expropriate properties in Silwan and the Muslim Quarter of the Old City from Palestinian owners.
20. The full version of the 2015 Strategic Response Plan is available at: [http://www.ochaopt.org/documents/srp\\_2015.pdf](http://www.ochaopt.org/documents/srp_2015.pdf).
21. Subcommittee Press Release (in Hebrew), available at: <http://main.knesset.gov.il/News/PressReleases/Pages/press11815f.aspx>



# Annex: Monthly Indicator Tables

## Conflict-related casualties and violence<sup>1</sup>

### Direct Israeli-Palestinian conflict related casualties

	2011	2012	2013	2014					2015							
	Total	Total	Total	Sep*	Oct	Nov	Dec	Total	Jan	Feb	Mar	Apr	May	June	July	Aug
<b>Palestinian deaths</b>																
Gaza	108	264	11	12	4	1	3	2256	0	0	1	0	0	0	0	0
West Bank (by Israeli forces and Israeli settlers)	17	8	28	4	4	4	2	58	2	1	1	5	1	3	7	3
Total	125	272	39	16	8	5	5	2314	2	1	2	5	1	3	7	3
Of whom are civilians <sup>2</sup>	62	136	32	16	8	5	5	1573	2	1	2	5	1	3	7	3
Of whom are female	3	23	1	3	0	0	0	300	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0

### Palestinian injuries

Gaza	468	1485	83	3	7	8	20	10739	4	2	10	10	13	8	6	4
West Bank (by Israeli forces and Israeli settlers)	1647	3175	3881	206	282	1000	330	6023	118	165	165	213	258	60	133	191
Total	2115	4660	3964	209	289	1008	350	17147	122	167	175	223	271	68	139	195
Of whom are civilians	2054	n/a	3959	206	291	984	347	NA	122	167	175	223	271	68	139	195
Of whom are female	151	n/a	158	4	24	6	5	2286	6	2	14	10	7	2	9	4

### Israeli deaths

Israel, Gaza and West Bank	11	7	4	0	2	8	0	85	0	0	0	1	0	2	0	0
Of whom are civilians	11	3	2	0	2	6	0	17	0	0	0	1	0	2	0	0
Of whom are female	0	1	0	0	1	1	0	2	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0

### Israeli injuries

Israel, Gaza and West Bank	122	345	151	22	32	55	15	2629	8	5	13	12	11	14	8	20
Of whom are civilians	56	60	74	10	19	41	12	952	7	2	9	7	8	9	4	9
Of whom are female	3	7	10	3	6	2	3	27	2	0	7	2	2	2	1	1

\*September-December fatalities in Gaza include those who sustained injuries during the Israeli offensive on Gaza (July-August)

\*\*See Magen David Adom's report: [http://www.mdais.org/h/316/&mod=download&me\\_id=13228](http://www.mdais.org/h/316/&mod=download&me_id=13228)

### Israeli-settler related incidents resulting in casualties or property damage

	2011	2012	2013	2014					2015							
	Total	Total	Total	Sep	Oct	Nov	Dec	Total	Jan	Feb	Mar	Apr	May	June	July	Aug
Incidents leading to Palestinian casualties <sup>4</sup>	120	98	94	3	6	14	4	110	8	6	13	5	6	4	7	6
Incidents leading to Palestinian property/land damages	291	268	306	5	19	17	18	221	17	10	8	8	12	12	10	12
Subtotal: incidents affecting Palestinians	411	366	399	8	25	31	22	331	25	16	21	13	18	16	17	18
Incidents leading to Israeli Casualties	23	35	38	9	10	16	10	89	6	2	5	7	4	7	4	6
Incidents leading to Israeli Property/land damages <sup>5</sup>	13	15	12	27	27	20	23	140	11	25	9	8	4	5	9	6
Subtotal: incidents affecting settlers	36	50	50	36	37	36	33	229	17	27	14	15	8	12	13	12

### Civilian Palestinians killed or injured by unexploded ordnance in Gaza

		2011	2012	2013	2014					2015							
		Total	Total	Total	Sep	Oct	Nov	Dec	Total	Jan	Feb	Mar	Apr	May	June	July	Aug
Adult	Injured	7	12	4	3	0	5	11	38	0	0	2	0	1	0	0	NA
	Killed	1	2	0	1	0	0	0	7	0	0	1	0	0	0	0	NA
Child	Injured	17	19	19	2	0	2	7	19	0	3	1	3	3	0	1	NA
	Killed	2	1	3	0	1	0	0	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	NA
<b>Grand Total</b>		<b>27</b>	<b>34</b>	<b>26</b>	<b>6</b>	<b>1</b>	<b>7</b>	<b>11</b>	<b>65</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>3</b>	<b>3</b>	<b>3</b>	<b>4</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>1</b>	<b>NA</b>

Source: United Nations Mine Action Service (UNMAS)

# Child Protection

## Number of Palestinian children killed - direct conflict

	2011	2012	2013	2014					2015							
	Total	Total	Total	Sep	Oct	Nov	Dec	Total	Jan	Feb	Mar	Apr	May	June	July	Aug
West Bank	2	2	4	1	2	0	2	13	1	0	0	1	0	0	3	0
Gaza Strip	11	44	1	3	0	1	1	548	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0

## Number of Palestinian children injured - direct conflict

West Bank	308	427	1232	74	58	113	108	1221	37	31	35	65	46	13	29	35
Gaza Strip	125	105	10	0	0	1	4	3416	0	0	0	4	2	1	2	0

## Number of Israeli children killed - direct conflict

oPt	1	1	0	1	1	1	0	7	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Israel	1	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0

## Number of Israeli children injured - direct conflict

oPt	0	3	8	1	0	1	3	7	1	0	3	0	2	0	0	1
Israel	0	2	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0

## Number of Palestinian children held in detention by Israeli authorities

In Israel and oPt	192 monthly average	198 monthly average	197 monthly average	128	163	156	152	185 monthly average	163	182	182	163	163	N/A	N/A	NA
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## Number of Palestinian children displaced by demolitions

West Bank, inc EJ	618	474	558	87	44	70	9	651	66	0	60	14	0	17	8	126
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## Number of incidents resulting in the disruption of schools<sup>19</sup>

oPt	na	321	47	23	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	5	4	14	12	2	0	N/A	N/A
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Source: OCHA, Defence for Children International, Israel Palestine Working Group on grave violations affecting children in armed conflict

# Access

## Access to healthcare - Gaza

	2011	2012	2013	2014					2015							
	2011 Monthly Average	2012 Monthly Average	Mon. Ave.	Sep	Oct	Nov	Dec	Mon. Ave.	Jan	Feb	Mar	Apr	May	June	July	Aug
Applications for permits to leave Gaza through Erez Crossing <sup>15</sup>	872	777	1148	1561	1038	1,636	1,684	1513	1,489	1429	1615	1539	1,814	2,148	1764	NA
of which approved	721	719	1010	1307	76	1,292	1,379	1246	1,202	1148	1329	1278	1,529	1,720	1461	NA
of which denied	19	7	3	41	213	44	56	39	52	63	27	18	45	140	28	NA
of which delayed <sup>16</sup>	83	17	135	213	15	300	249	228	235	218	259	243	240	288	275	NA

Source:WHO

## Movement of humanitarian staff, West Bank

	2011	2012	2013	2014					2015							
	2011 Monthly Average	2012 monthly ave	Mon. Ave.	Sep	Oct	Nov	Dec	Mon. Ave.	Jan	Feb	Mar	Apr	May	June	July	Aug
Incidents of delayed or denied access at WVB checkpoint <sup>17</sup>	38	37.5	40.1	38	31	39	30	29	17	28	54	42	38	27	24	NA
Of which occurred at Jerusalem checkpoint	22	21	22.3	14	4	6	6	8	4	7	6	4	6	3	6	NA
Number of staff days lost due to checkpoint incidents	25	21	18.5	26.5	9.5	32	15	25	5.5	13.6	16.2	14.2	12	4	12.5	NA

Source: OCHA

## Search and Arrest

	2011	2012	2013	2014					2015							
	Monthly Average	Monthly Average	Mon. Ave.	Sep	Oct	Nov	Dec	Mon.Ave.	Jan	Feb	Mar	Apr	May	June	July	Aug
Search Campaigns (West Bank)	349	<b>338</b>	<b>316</b>	353	422	409	409	413	496	348	372	332	469	276	286	254
Palestinians detained (West Bank)	262	<b>283</b>	<b>491</b>	467	562	631	584	563	618	384	481	400	526	401	474	380

Source: OCHA


### Palestinians under Israeli custody (occupation related)<sup>6</sup>

	2011	2012	2013	2014					2015							
	Monthly Average	Monthly Average	Mon. Ave.	Sep	Oct	Nov	Dec	Mon.Ave.	Jan	Feb	Mar	Apr	May	June	July	Aug
Total as of the end of the month	5326	<b>4,451</b>	<b>4227</b>	5439	5477	5527	5,528	5258	5549	5609	5591	5554	5516	5442	N/A	N/A
of whom are women	26	<b>7</b>	<b>10</b>	15	14	15	20	16	20	20	18	21	22	22	N/A	N/A
of whom are administrative detainees <sup>7</sup>	240	<b>245</b>	<b>132</b>	468	457	461	463	327	455	424	412	396	391	370	N/A	N/A
of whom are detained until the conclusion of legal proceedings	633	<b>897</b>	<b>1062</b>	1623	1609	1534	1,511	1525	1526	1534	1499	1479	1370	1363	N/A	N/A

Source: Israeli Prison Service (through B'Tselem)


## Demolition of Structures

### Structures demolished<sup>8</sup>



	2011	2012	2013	2014					2015							
	Total	Total	Total	Sep	Oct	Nov	Dec	Total	Jan	Feb	Mar	Apr	May	June	July	Aug
of which in Area C	571	<b>540</b>	<b>565</b>	58	27	37	24	493	76	15	77	21	18	41	14	139
of which in East Jerusalem	42	<b>64</b>	<b>98</b>	3	23	11	14	98	5	2	18	2	4	6	8	5
of which in Area A	NA	<b>NA</b>		<b>1</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>5</b>	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	1
of which in Area B	NA	<b>NA</b>		<b>0</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>5</b>	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
<b>Grand Total</b>	<b>622</b>	<b>604</b>	<b>663</b>	<b>62</b>	<b>50</b>	<b>48</b>	<b>38</b>	<b>601</b>	<b>81</b>	<b>17</b>	<b>95</b>	<b>23</b>	<b>22</b>	<b>47</b>	<b>22</b>	<b>145</b>

### People Displaced due to demolitions<sup>9</sup>



	2011	2012	2013	2014					2015							
	Total	Total	Total	Sep	Oct	Nov	Dec	Total	Jan	Feb	Mar	Apr	May	June	July	Aug
of whom were displaced in Area C	1006	<b>815</b>	<b>805</b>	122	67	102	10	969	117	0	110	25	0	29	0	201
of whom were displaced in East Jerusalem	88	<b>71</b>	<b>298</b>	15	30	34	8	208	0	0	0	0	0	2	22	0
of which in Area A	NA	<b>NA</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>5</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>32</b>	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	7
of which in Area B	NA	<b>NA</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>6</b>	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
<b>Grand Total</b>	<b>1094</b>	<b>886</b>	<b>1103</b>	<b>142</b>	<b>97</b>	<b>136</b>	<b>18</b>	<b>1215</b>	<b>117</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>110</b>	<b>25</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>31</b>	<b>22</b>	<b>208</b>



## Truckloads of goods entering Gaza from Israel<sup>18</sup>










Source: Palestinian Ministry of National Economy, Gaza

\* Due to historical differences in the modality of transfer, to preserve the uniformity of the data, figures do not include truckloads carrying fuel.

## Strategic Response Plan(SRP) 2015:

Occupied Palestinian territory Strategic Response Plan (SRP) 2015 as of 22-September-2015

		SRP 2015	
Cluster		Total request in USD	% of funds received
	Coordination and Support Services	23,235,547	90%
	Education	20,330,672	41%
	Food Security	324,704,291	39%
	Health and Nutrition	21,212,516	39%
	Protection	51,935,541	63%
	Shelter/Non-Food Items	224,930,156	41%
	Water, Sanitation and Hygiene	39,213,897	49%
Total		705,288,765	45.9%

# Monthly Indicator Notes and Clarifications

## Casualties

1. **Conflict-related casualties:** includes all casualties that occurred in violent incidents immediately related to the Israeli occupation and the Israeli-Palestinian conflict, such as military operations, search and arrest campaigns, clashes during demonstrations, attacks involving Israeli settlers, etc. These figures exclude other related casualties such as those in the context of access delays, the explosion of unexploded ordnance, reckless handling of weapons, collapse of tunnels, and internal Palestinian violence.
2. **Civilians:** includes people who, according to the information available at the time of publication, did not fulfill a “continuous combatant function” as part of an organized armed group, regardless of the circumstances of their injury or killing. Figures in this category should not be considered comprehensive, as unconfirmed or disputed cases are excluded.
3. **Tunnel related casualties:** figures in this category may overlap with those under conflict-related casualties, as it includes casualties in the context of Israeli attacks targeting tunnels, as well as those resulting from tunnel collapses and other accidents.

## Israeli settler-related violence

4. **Incidents resulting in casualties:** includes all violent incidents involving Israeli settlers and Palestinians, including those in which the injury was caused by a member of the Israeli security forces during an intervention in such an incident.
5. **Incidents resulting in property damage/losses:** *ibid.*

## Search and Arrest

6. **Palestinians in Israeli custody:** includes all Palestinians from the oPt held by the Israeli authorities at the end of each month, whether in Israel or in the West Bank, in connection to an offense related to the Israeli occupation and classified by the Israeli authorities as a “security detainee/prisoner”. Therefore it excludes Palestinians held in connection to a “regular” criminal offense.
7. **Administrative detainees:** Palestinians held by the Israeli authorities without charge or trial, allegedly for preventive purposes.

## Demolitions

8. **Structures demolished:** includes all Palestinian-owned structures in the oPt demolished by the Israeli authorities, regardless of their specific use (residential or non-residential) or the grounds on which the demolition was carried out (lack of building permit, military operation or punishment).
9. **People displaced due to demolitions:** includes all persons that were living in structures demolished by the Israeli authorities, regardless of the place in which they relocated following the demolition.
10. **People affected by demolitions:** includes all people that benefited from a demolished structure (as a source of income, to receive a service, etc), excluding those displaced.

## Access West Bank

11. **Permanently staffed checkpoints:** staffed by Israeli security personnel, excluding checkpoints located on the Green Line and ‘agricultural gates’ along the Barrier.
12. **Partially staffed checkpoints:** checkpoint infrastructure staffed on an ad-hoc basis.
13. **Unstaffed obstacles:** includes roadblocks, earthmounds, earth walls, road gates, road barriers, and trenches. For historical reasons, this figure excludes obstacles located within the Israeli-controlled area of Hebron City (H2).
14. **‘Flying’ or random checkpoints:** checkpoints deployed on an ad hoc basis in places without pre-existing infrastructure.

## Access to health

15. **Applications for permits to leave Gaza through Erez:** includes only the applications submitted for travel scheduled within the reporting period.
16. **Delayed applications:** includes applications regarding which no answer was received by the date of the medical appointment, thus forcing the patient to restart the application process.

## Movement of humanitarian staff

17. **Incidents of delayed or denied access at a WB checkpoint:** includes incidents affecting local or international staff of humanitarian organizations, both UN and international NGOs.

## Imports to Gaza

18. **Truckloads by type:** for historical reasons this figure excludes truckloads carrying all types of fuel.

## Child Protection

19. Attacks include the targeting of schools that cause the total or partial destruction of such facilities. Other interferences to the normal operation of the facility may also be reported, such as the occupation, shelling, targeting for propaganda of, or otherwise causing harm to school facilities or its personnel.