INTRODUCTION

The context in the oPt is a protracted protection crisis with humanitarian consequences, driven by insufficient respect for international law by all sides. Palestinians in the oPt face a range of serious protection threats in the context of Israel’s prolonged occupation and periodic escalation of armed conflict, including threats to life, liberty and security, destruction or damage to homes and other property, forced displacement, restrictions on freedom of movement and on access to livelihoods, and lack of accountability and effective remedy. These threats are exacerbated by the inability of the sides to reach a political agreement. The seasonal winter flooding further exacerbates pre-existing humanitarian needs. In 2014, there was a sharp increase in the severity of humanitarian needs in the Gaza Strip as a result of the July-August conflict.

ISSUES OF KEY CONCERN

- Threats to life, liberty and security.
- Forced displacement.
- Erosion of livelihoods and lack of economic opportunities and access to food.
- Restricted access to basic services.

OCCUPIED PALESTINIAN TERRITORY

The West Bank including East Jerusalem, and the Gaza Strip

January 2019

Palestine Registered Refugees

West Bank 878,328 refugees
Gaza 1,086,455 refugees
Lebanon 449,555 refugees
Syria 551,873 refugees
Jordan 2,206,736 refugees

Forced displacement.
Restricted access to basic services.

Palestine Refugees

Population

4.8 million Palestinians live in the oPt, with 2.9 million in the West Bank and 1.9 million in the Gaza Strip. Source: PBO 2019

UNemployment

53.7% unemployment rate in the Gaza Strip and 20% in the West Bank. Source: PBO 2016

Palestine Refugees

~50% of the oPt population are Palestinian refugees and nearly 50% are below the age of 13. Source: UNRWA 2019

Food Insecurity*

~30% of households in the Gaza Strip and ~16% in the West Bank are food insecure. Source: WFP, FAO, UNFPA, PCBS; November 2018

Average Water Consumption*

79 litres/capita/day (l/c/d) in the West Bank;
66 l/c/d in the Gaza Strip.
WHO standard is 100 l/c/d. Source: UNHabitat 2017

Household Size

5.2 persons is the average Palestinian household size in the oPt. Source: PBO 2015

Israeli Settlements

611,000 Israeli settlers live in 230 settlements (including outposts) in the West Bank, including East Jerusalem, in contravention of international law. Source: ISRAEL 2016 & 2019

* Due to water losses through the network, consumption is significantly lower than water supply.

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