

EC Partners

Palestinian Ministry of
Social Affairs

Palestinian Ministry of
Finance

Facts and Figures

- EC contribution: €74 million
- Duration: 2008-2009
- 35% of Palestinian households live under the official poverty line



EUROPEAN
COMMISSION

Social cohesion

Social assistance in the occupied Palestinian territory

Support to vulnerable families through the EU's PEGASE mechanism

"The social allowance provided by the EU is the only regular source of income for my family. I have six children, and two of them are mentally ill. One of my daughters is divorced and she lives with us with her son. The social allowance enables us to meet our basic needs, and we thank the EU for this help."

Husni Mustafa Ridan, beneficiary of the social allowances programme



Context

As a result of the political and economic context in the occupied Palestinian territory, an increasing number of households have low, irregular or no income and are financially dependent on the Palestinian Authority's (PA) cash support programme, the "Social Hardship Case" (SHC). Through the PEGASE mechanism, the EU contributes to the SHC programme, to provide poor families with basic assistance in these difficult times.

Objective

- Guarantee the continued assistance to poor and vulnerable Palestinian families dependent on financial aid from the Palestinian Authority.
- Assist the Palestinian Authority in fulfilling its public service obligations to the most vulnerable Palestinian households.

Impact

- Up to 52 000 vulnerable Palestinian households receive payments of around €200 every three months.
- Purchasing power of 300 000 individuals enhanced through the programme to help cover basic needs.
- Palestinian Authority objective to provide social assistance to poor and vulnerable households supported.

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EuropeAid

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Helping those who need it most

Raghda Irsan Sliman, social worker at the Ministry of Social Affairs:

"The social allowances for vulnerable Palestinian families go directly to those who need them the most. They used to be provided by the Palestinian Authority, but when it was no longer able to do so the EU saved these families from sinking even deeper into poverty."

"The economic situation in Palestine is very difficult, with increasing unemployment, the political situation, and the high cost of living. These factors make a growing number of people dependent on aid from the Palestinian Authority, and if it weren't for the EU, these vulnerable households would be left without any regular source of income at all."



Alia Mohammed Emetel receives a 1000 shekel allowance to help meet her basic needs