

HUMANITARIAN BULLETIN MONTHLY REPORT

JULY 2013



HIGHLIGHTS

- Egypt tightened controls on the border area with Gaza, restricting the operating of the Rafah passenger crossing and goods traffic through the tunnels, affecting patient referrals, the construction sector and fishing.
- In the first half of 2013, the number of violent incidents affecting Gaza fishermen at sea significantly increased compared to the previous six months, resulting in the first injuries recorded in over a year.
- Damage and evacuation orders affecting thousands of olive trees in the northern West Bank highlight concerns regarding settler violence and restricted access to private Palestinian land within settlements and nature reserves.
- The Israeli authorities opened up two key roads leading into the cities of Ramallah and Hebron for Palestinian traffic, facilitating the access of tens of thousands to services and livelihoods.

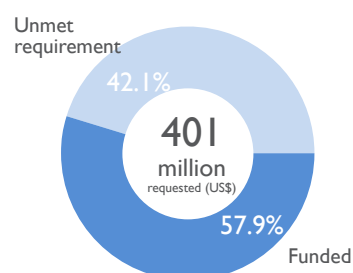
JULY FIGURES

Palestinian civilians killed (direct conflict)	1
Palestinian civilians injured (direct conflict)	137
Palestinian children under Israeli detention	193
Structures demolished in the West Bank	21
Patients' applications to leave Gaza approved by Israel	NA

CAP 2013 FUNDING

401 million
requested (US\$)

57.9% funded



July Overview

In the context of increasing unrest in Egypt, for the second successive month, the Egyptian authorities restricted the operation of the tunnels under the Egypt-Gaza border, which are used for the entry of construction materials, fuel and goods otherwise unavailable or available at a higher price from Israel. The Egyptian authorities also tightened controls on the Rafah passenger crossing, Gaza's main access to the outside world. The crossing was closed entirely for six days, before reopening partially for the rest of the month, with passage limited to certain categories of people. Combined, these measures resulted in a sharp slowdown in construction activities leading to layoffs in the construction sector, one of the few functioning outlets in the depressed Gazan economy. The Rafah closure also resulted in less than

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The gate blocking the historic access road into Hebron is now partially open

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Coordination Saves Lives



half the normal number of Ministry of Health (MoH) referred patients travelling to Egypt and the MOH's restricting X-rays and certain drugs to emergency use only, due to low supplies and the unreliable flow of medical supplies via the Rafah Crossing.

Fuel shortages in July, triggered by the clampdown on tunnel activities, led to Ministry of Agriculture-imposed quotas on fuel purchases for fishing boats in Gaza, and a decrease in the number of active fishing boats, the main source of livelihood for 3,500 registered fishermen. In the context of incidents affecting fishermen at sea, in the first half of 2013 the number of violent incidents, including shootings, significantly increased compared to the previous six months, resulting in the first injuries recorded in over a year. The number of incidents in which fishing equipment was damaged or confiscated also increased, and while the number of boats confiscated by the Israeli authorities decreased, new requirements regarding the recovery of such boats will make their return to Gaza prohibitively costly.

In the West Bank in July, damage to more than 1,150 olive trees belonging to the village of 'Awarta highlight ongoing concerns regarding settler violence and restricted access to private Palestinian land located within settlements and nature reserves. There are an estimated 90 Palestinian communities like 'Awarta which have land within, or in the vicinity of, Israeli settlements and whose access to such land is subject to "prior coordination" with the Israeli authorities, generally only granted for a limited number of days during the annual olive harvest. In addition to placing the onus on farmers to adapt their access to a limited schedule, the 'Awarta case demonstrates that the prior coordination system is largely ineffective in preventing attacks by settlers against Palestinian trees outside the times allocated.

On a more positive note, in July, the Israeli authorities opened up two key roads leading into the cities of Ramallah and Hebron for Palestinian traffic, facilitating the access of tens of thousands to services and livelihoods. These measures are consistent with a trend observed since mid-2008 entailing improved movement between the main Palestinian towns and cities in the West Bank. Access to East Jerusalem for West Bank ID holders continues to be restricted by the Barrier, the checkpoints and the permit system. However, this month, on the occasion of Ramadan, the Israeli authorities implemented significant measures that facilitated Palestinian pedestrian access to the city from the remainder of the West Bank; Palestinians from the Gaza Strip continued to be denied access to the city during Ramadan. Such easing of restrictions can significantly contribute to Israel meeting its obligations on freedom of movement were they to be applied throughout the year, allowing Palestinians better access to services in East Jerusalem.

CONTINUING RESTRICTIONS ON RAFAH CROSSING IMPEDE GAZANS' ACCESS TO HEALTH

Fewer patients leave for treatment in Egypt and inflow of medicine reduced

Following unrest in Egypt and a deteriorating security situation in the Sinai Peninsula, the Egyptian authorities tightened controls on the border area with Gaza. On 5 July, the

The Gaza MOH is restricting X-rays and certain drugs to emergency use only, due to low supplies and the unreliable flow of medical supplies via the Rafah Crossing.

Information for this piece was provided by the World Health Organization (WHO).

Egyptian authorities closed the Rafah passenger crossing entirely, leaving thousands of Palestinians stranded on both the Egyptian and Gaza side of the border. The crossing partially re-opened on 10 July and has since remained operational for four hours per day, six days per week, compared to the previous standard of nine hours per day, seven days per week. Only foreign nationals, authorized Palestinians holding dual nationality and a limited number of Palestinians referred officially for medical treatment abroad were allowed to cross. The average number of people passing per day in July was 540, less than 30 per cent of the approximately 1,860 who crossed daily in June. The crossing remains the primary exit and entry point to the Gaza Strip for Palestinians, due to the long-standing restrictions imposed by Israel on pedestrian movement via the Erez Crossing.

The partial closure restricted travel abroad for hundreds of Gaza patients. In July, only patients who held official referral documents from the Palestinian Ministry of Health Referral Abroad Department (MoH-Ramallah) guaranteeing financial coverage were able to exit Gaza through the Rafah Crossing. In the first four weeks of July, a total of 131 patients, of whom 22 were children up to 17 years old, were referred by the MoH to Egypt, less than half the usual number. However, no compensatory increases were noted in referrals through Erez checkpoint to the West Bank and Israel, or to non-Ministry facilities within Gaza in July, suggesting that patients chose to delay medical treatment, rather than seek to obtain a permit to exit through Erez to alternative hospitals. Patients aged 18-40 years, especially males, are most often required to submit to Israeli security interviews as part of the application process for permits to exit via Erez. Companions must also apply for permits, and may likewise be called for interviews.¹

Since 2010, the Palestinian Ministry of Health has depended on Egypt to treat 22 per cent of its outside referrals from Gaza, second only to East Jerusalem hospitals, where 26 per cent of Gaza referral patients are sent. Twenty per cent are referred to non-Ministry facilities in Gaza, 16 per cent to Israel, and 10 per cent to other health centres in the West Bank. Previously, six per cent had been referred to Jordan, but that ended in 2012 due to the accrued Palestinian Authority (PA) debt. The number of Gaza patients seeking self-funded care in Egypt may be equal to the number of MoH referrals per month, but can only be estimated, as these cases are not registered as medical cases at the border.

Also this month, the Ministry of Health in Gaza began restricting X-rays and limiting certain drugs to emergency use only, due to low supplies and the unreliable flow of medical supplies via the Rafah Crossing. Twenty-five per cent of its drug supplies are normally received from, or through, Egypt via this crossing. Two principal Egyptian donors, the Arab Physicians Union and the Physicians Syndicate, are expected to halt donations to Gaza in view of current urgent needs in Egypt. These groups have played a crucial role as a source for rapid supply of critical items, such as dialysis solutions, common chemotherapy drugs, Factor VIII for haemophilia, immunosuppressants for kidney transplant patients and treatments for other chronic blood disease conditions. Any sustained gap in the supply of these items would have immediate negative impact

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The average number of people passing through the Rafah Crossing per day in July was 540, less than 30 per cent of the approximately 1,860 who crossed daily in June.

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on patients. The Human Appeal International (United Arab Emirates) and Qatar Red Crescent also provide donations to the MoH in Gaza via Rafah, but according to the MoH, only one drug shipment has been received via that route since 30 June, from an Italian NGO.

At the end of July, 27 per cent (128 items) of essential medicines were at zero stock in the Central Drug Store in Gaza and 16 per cent (78 items) were at low stock (between 1-3 months' supply). Medical disposables were also at critical levels, with 53 per cent (476 items) at zero stock and eight per cent (73 items) at low stock. The ability of the MoH in the West Bank to resupply Gaza is also hindered by a similar level of drug shortages in its Central Drug Store, due to the Palestinian Authority budget shortfall. Thirty per cent of medical donations and supplies are transferred to the MoH in Gaza from the West Bank, via the Kerem Shalom crossing; WHO, ICRC and UNICEF provided supplies of medicines and medical consumables requested by the MoH Gaza as top priority items during June and July. Erez checkpoint is sometimes used for supplies of vaccines through WHO coordination.



On average, around 1,500 tonnes of construction materials entered Gaza through the tunnels per day in July, compared to 7,500 tonnes prior to the imposition of the recent restrictions.



RESTRICTIONS ON TUNNELS CONTINUE FOR SECOND MONTH

Clampdown leads to slowdown in construction sector

For the second successive month the Egyptian authorities restricted the operation of the tunnels along Egypt's border with Gaza, in the context of increasing unrest in Egypt, in particular in the Sinai Peninsula. Measures included the destruction and flooding of tunnels, as well as the extensive deployment of security forces and the imposition of severe restrictions on access to the tunnel areas. The tunnels remain the main entry point for the transfer of construction materials into the Gaza Strip, as the import of basic construction materials for the private sector through Kerem Shalom, the official goods crossing with Israel, remains severely restricted.² The Palestinian Federation of Industries estimated that, on average, around 1,500 tonnes of construction materials entered Gaza through the tunnels per day, compared to 7,500 tonnes prior to the imposition of the recent measures. The price of construction materials on local markets rose sharply before declining to between 20 to 30 per cent above the normal price by the end of the month, and leading to a sharp slowdown in construction activities and the operation of concrete mix factories.

In recent years, the tunnels have also become the primary entry point for transfer of fuel, which is cheaper from Egypt than from Israel. Following reduced volumes earlier in July, by the end of the month, the transfer of diesel and petrol had reached almost the same quantities that had entered before the Egyptian measures against tunnels began in June. The use of diesel is currently controlled by the local authorities in order to ensure sufficient supplies to support basic services, including hospitals and water and wastewater systems.

CASE STUDY: TUNNEL CLOSURES FOLLOWED BY LAY-OFFS IN CONCRETE MIX FACTORIES

In the past, life was much better for me. I was working inside Israel and earning over NIS 4,000 a month. This changed in 1993, when my permit to enter Israel was cancelled. I spent more than five years without work before I found a job, as a truck driver at Abu Aida concrete mix factory, earning significantly less, around NIS 1,400 a month. However, in 2009, during the 'Cast Lead' military operation, the factory was totally destroyed by Israeli forces and I was out of work again for nearly three years. To survive, I had to spend all my savings, borrow over 6,000 Jordanian Dinars and my wife had to sell her wedding jewellery to meet our family's basic needs.



In late 2011, I was re-employed at the rebuilt factory and my salary gradually increased to NIS 2,000 a month. Although my income is still low, I feel lucky to be employed when almost everybody else in Gaza is out of work. My family and I have learned how to cope on a low income, reducing our expenses and social life to a minimum, eating cheaper food, and not paying the electricity and water bills. My salary also has to cover some of my parents' expenses and go towards re-paying some of the money I borrowed in 2009. Without the food aid we have been receiving every three months from CHF International, our situation would be even worse.

I fear that our situation is now going to deteriorate again: beginning in late June, the factory's operations were severely disrupted and, by mid-July, had come to a complete halt, due to the lack of construction materials entering through the tunnels. While before June the factory employed 35 people and produced up to 400 CM² of concrete every day, these days less than 50 CM² is produced. In the last two months, I've worked fewer than 20 days, but the owner continued to pay me a salary because of the holy month of Ramadan and because he understands my difficult living conditions. However, I know that I am one of the 15 workers to be laid off soon and in August they will stop paying me a salary. I'm really worried about the new school year, which is always very stressful for me, having to buy school uniforms, bags and books for my children. Once again, my dignity will suffer and I will have to find someone to borrow money from. I feel that we are very unfortunate in Gaza; after years of enduring the closure of Gaza and the blockade, regional events are now adding to our problems. I wish that the restrictions would end soon and, ultimately, that I could go back to work in Israel.

INCREASE IN VIOLENT INCIDENTS AFFECTING GAZA FISHERMAN IN FIRST HALF OF 2013

Fuel shortages exacerbate the impact of access restrictions

An update by the Office of the United Nations High Commissioner for Human Rights (OHCHR), as coordinator of the Protection Cluster, details the incidents affecting Gaza fishermen at sea in the first half of 2013.³ This follows the 21 November 2012 ceasefire agreement between Hamas and Israel, when the permissible fishing area for Palestinian fishermen was extended from three to six nautical miles (NM), with the exception of the period between 21 March and 21 May 2013, when the Israeli authorities again reduced the limit three NM, claiming it was in response to rockets fired from Gaza to Israel by Palestinian armed groups.

Information for this piece was provided by OHCHR, on behalf of the Protection Cluster and ACF and FAO for the Food Security Cluster.

The number of violent incidents recorded during the first half of 2013, in the context of the enforcement of access restrictions at sea by the Israeli Navy, significantly increased compared to the previous six months (July-December 2012): shooting incidents more than doubled (95 vs. 43); incidents involving injuries were recorded for the first time in over a year (5 vs. 0); and the number of incidents in which fishing equipment was damaged or confiscated also increased significantly (12 vs. 2). On the other hand, the number of fishermen detained (13 vs. 42) and boats confiscated (3 vs. 7) decreased significantly, while the number of boats damaged or destroyed was comparable to the previous reporting period (8 vs. 9).⁴ The Protection Cluster noted that the confiscation of nets, for which there is no discernible security justification, has a particularly negative impact, as it deprives fishermen of their catch and the nets are expensive to replace.

NEW REGULATIONS FURTHER IMPEDE THE RECOVERY OF REQUISITIONED BOATS

On 23 May 2013, the Office of the Legal Advisor for the Israeli Naval Forces responded by letter to an intervention by the Palestinian Centre for Human Rights (PCHR) concerning the return of seven boats confiscated between April 2012 and February 2013. The letter states that the fishermen had been in prohibited areas when their boats were confiscated, and that in order to secure the release of the boats, they would need to sign an undertaking that they will not enter restricted areas at sea or allow their boats to be used for this purpose, and renounce the right to file any compensation claim in relation to the seizure of the boat. The letter also requires fishermen to coordinate directly with one of three companies in Israel for the transportation of the boats from Ashdod Port (in Israel) to the Kerem Shalom crossing. Previously, fishermen had only been responsible for covering the costs from Kerem Shalom crossing. Furthermore, the letter states that engines that exceed 25 horsepower will be removed from the boats, as under the Israeli law on security exports they cannot enter Gaza without a special permit, for which fishermen will need to apply to the Ministry of Defence. In practice, these requirements will make the return of confiscated boats, particularly if they are returned without their engines, prohibitively costly for Gaza fishermen, at least 95 per cent of whom receive international aid.

Fishermen's livelihoods have been also affected by recent fuel shortages triggered by Egypt's tightened restrictions on tunnel activities.

Fishermen's livelihoods have been also affected by recent fuel shortages, triggered by the decrease in tunnel activities following Egyptian efforts to shut down tunnels under its border with Gaza. Although the summer is a low season for fishing in Gaza, fishermen can anticipate a catch that at least covers their overhead, and hopefully yields a small profit. However, the fuel shortage has led to quotas for fuel purchases per fishing boat issued by the Ministry of Agriculture in Gaza, leading to a decrease in the number of active fishing boats. Large trawler boats are especially affected: where normally 10-12 boats would be active daily, this has been reduced to between four and six. Small boats, which use petrol, are severely affected as the shortage and high cost of benzene outweighs the value of the potential catch.

Additionally, highly turbulent conditions at sea have clouded the water within the permitted fishing zone, forcing sardine schools further away from shore beyond the 6 NM limit, and leaving fishermen with little to show for their time and efforts.

The Gaza fishing industry is currently the main source of livelihood for 3,500 registered fishermen and their families. An additional 2,000 people work in fishing-related industries and fish is a supply of high protein food for residents of the Gaza Strip.

Small scale farmers and fishermen, and their families, are some of the most affected by food insecurity in Gaza.

Despite the recent increase in access up to six NM, fishermen in Gaza are still denied access to the most profitable fishing areas off the Gaza coast. According to the UN's Food and Agricultural Organization (FAO), the majority of high value fish are found at a distance of eight to twelve nautical miles from shore. Fishermen fear that further restrictions may be imposed at any time, and many have been unable or unwilling to invest financially in order to make the best use of increased access, knowing that their investments may be lost.⁵



ISRAELI SETTLERS DAMAGE RECORD NUMBER OF OLIVE TREES IN WEST BANK

Rise in damage to trees in 2013 raises concerns before upcoming olive harvest

Recent damage to olive trees in the West Bank highlights ongoing concerns regarding settler violence and restricted access to private Palestinian land located within settlements and nature reserves, particularly in light of the upcoming olive harvest. In July, more than 1,150 olive trees belonging to 23 Palestinian families from 'Awarta village in Nablus were cut down or damaged inside the perimeter fence of Itamar settlement. This is one of the largest such incidents since OCHA began recording settler-related incidents in 2005. So far in 2013, OCHA has recorded damage to 7,272 Palestinian-owned trees and saplings by Israeli settlers.

Itamar was established in 1984 on 200 dunums of land seized from 'Awarta; in 2008, the settlement installed a second fence around the original security fence, incorporating additional Palestinian private land. The settlement's outer limit, or physical perimeter, now covers approximately 6,000 dunums. The trees vandalized in July, some of which are more than 100 years old, are located between the two fences.

There are an estimated 90 Palestinian communities in the West Bank which have land within, or in the vicinity of, 55 Israeli settlements and settlement outposts. Palestinian access to such land is subject to "prior coordination" with the Israeli authorities, even in cases where the fencing off of the land was carried out by settlers without authorization from the Israeli authorities. If "prior coordination" is approved, access is generally granted for a limited number of days during the annual olive harvest, when Israeli soldiers are deployed to protect their access during these periods.⁶ This procedure was implemented throughout the West Bank during the 2012 olive harvest, with relatively few incidents of settler violence reported during these scheduled occasions.

However, the prior coordination regime places the onus on farmers who must adapt their access to their private land, rather than on Israeli settlers whose presence in the

An estimated 90 Palestinian communities in the West Bank which have land within or in the vicinity of 55 Israeli settlements and outposts and require "prior coordination" to access this land.

West Bank is in contravention of international law. In addition, as the 'Awarta case demonstrates, the system has also proven largely ineffective in preventing attacks by settlers against Palestinian trees and crops, as most settler attacks occur outside the times allocated through the prior coordination process, when Palestinian farmers cannot access or protect their land and property. In 2012, over 8,600 trees were reported burned, uprooted, or otherwise vandalized, including in areas adjacent to settlements at times when Palestinian access was restricted. While this figure represents a decrease compared to 2011 (approximately 9,500 trees damaged), this is, in part, the cumulative result of past years' attacks, leading to a gradual decrease in the amount of productive trees in the vicinity of settlements and in the need for a prior coordination regime to access such trees.

In the case of 'Awarta, according to the farmers affected, they have been unable to access their lands since the 2010 olive harvest season and required prior coordination in order to assess the damage to their trees. According to the farmers, the yearly income loss is estimated to be 200 NIS per tree, assuming 10 kilograms of oil per tree. The Israeli authorities have opened an investigation into the incident.

CASE STUDY; OVER 2,000 TREES IN WADI QANA UNDER THREAT

The valley of Wadi Qana in the Salfit Governorate is cultivated by more than 300 families from Deir Istiya and Kafr Thult villages, due to the availability of as many as 15 freshwater springs. Wadi Qana is also surrounded by settlements which, according to local farmers, discharge sewage into the valley and occasionally harass them. In 1982, Wadi Qana was declared a nature reserve, with the result that changes to the area, including the planting of trees, would require a permit from the Israeli authorities.

Khadir Ahmad Mansour, from Deir Istiya, is 77 years old and has more than 30 children and grandchildren. In 2010, the Palestinian Ministry of Agriculture donated dozens of trees to his family so that they could rehabilitate part of his land in Wadi Qana which was uncultivated at that time. He also purchased trees of his own and planted a total of 400 olive trees, rehabilitating around 20 dunums of land. At the end of 2012, Mr. Mansour and another 20 families received evacuation orders for the newly planted trees in Wadi Qana, on the grounds that the area has been designated as a nature reserve. The farmers engaged Israeli and Palestinian lawyers and human rights organizations in an attempt to freeze the evacuation orders.



At the beginning of July 2013, the Israeli Nature Protection Department, accompanied by Israeli forces, painted the trunks of more than 2,200 olive, citrus, almond, fig and banana trees in Wadi Qana. The farmers fear that this is a first step to uprooting these trees; according to their lawyers an official Israeli court order has yet to be delivered.

I was born on this land. Farming it is the only work I have known and my only source of livelihood. I don't understand why Israeli settlements around Wadi Qana can expand, while I am not allowed to plant trees on my own privately-owned land because it has been declared a nature reserve.

ASSISTANCE TO KHIRBET AR RAS AL AHMAR AFTER REPEATED DEMOLITIONS AND FORCED DISPLACEMENT

Information for this piece was provided by ACTED.

Israeli authorities confiscate and demolish humanitarian assistance

Khirbet ar Ras al Ahmar is a Bedouin community of 34 families located southeast of Tubas city in the northern Jordan Valley. Some 23 of the families live in Area C and in a closed military area, or firing zone, about two kilometres east of the settlements of Roi and Beqa'ot. Approximately 18 per cent of the West Bank has been designated as a closed military zone for training, or 'firing zone'; Palestinians living in these areas are among the most vulnerable in the West Bank, with high levels of humanitarian need. Communities such as Khirbet ar Ras al Ahmar have limited or restricted access to services (such as basic education and health facilities) and little or no service infrastructure (including water, sanitation and electricity infrastructure). The Israeli authorities regularly carry out demolitions of homes and other structures in these communities, either in the context of demolition orders or when executing eviction orders. During the first half of 2013, six military training exercises resulted in 79 eviction orders for 23 families in Khirbet ar Ras al Ahmar.

On 27 June, a demolition of 34 structures in the community displaced six families and prompted a coordinated response between the ICRC, international and local non-governmental organizations, and local authorities, which included emergency food and non-food items and an immediate response to shelter needs because of the intense heat. Two days after the intervention, the Israeli authorities confiscated the materials for two animal shelters, which had been provided by an international NGO, in addition to the private truck of a community member who had transported the materials. On 7 July, the Israeli authorities visited the affected families and demolished seven tents and four animal shelters that had been provided following the demolitions of 27 June, in addition to six animal shelters and fencing units belonging to the families.

On 8 July, there was an additional response to the second demolitions, despite the difficulty in providing humanitarian assistance to a community located in close proximity to settlements, and affected by recurring military trainings and multiple waves of demolitions. In addition, during the following week the various agencies involved conducted coordinated assessments to determine the most suitable response for the community, and, on 24 July, two residential tents were provided as part of a larger effort to prevent the forced displacement of the Khirbet ar Ras al Ahmar community.

KEY ROUTES INTO RAMALLAH AND HEBRON OPENED FOR PALESTINIAN TRAFFIC

Access to a village in Qalqiliya area blocked for several days

In July, the Israeli authorities opened up two key roads leading into the cities of Ramallah and Hebron for Palestinian traffic, facilitating the access of tens of thousands to services and livelihoods. Significant measures aimed at facilitating Palestinian pedestrian access to East Jerusalem were also implemented this month on the occasion of Ramadan, and

will be covered in the August edition of the Humanitarian Bulletin. On the other hand, the main access road into 'Azzun village (Qalqiliya) has been blocked by the Israeli military for several days during the month, with a significantly negative impact on the population.

In the Ramallah area, the Israeli authorities removed two earth mounds next to Ein Siniya village that had blocked vehicular access to a main road leading to Ramallah city from the north (the original Road 60). Together with a checkpoint that restricts access to Ramallah from the east (DCO checkpoint) and several other obstacles, the removed earth mounds had funnelled all traffic into the city from the northern West Bank along a single main route (via 'Atara partial checkpoint), which is often congested.⁷ This recent removal follows last year's opening of a road gate connecting Al Jalazon refugee camp and other villages adjacent to Ramallah to the same road (old route of Road 60).

In addition, the Israeli authorities partially opened the historic access road into Hebron City from the south to Palestinian traffic. The gate blocking this road has been opened daily for a few hours in the morning (0500 to 0900) and in the evening (1600 to 2000), and is occasionally staffed by soldiers. This road had been blocked for the past 12 years, forcing over 70,000 Palestinians living in villages adjacent to Hebron to use alternative detours through the western or eastern entrances to the city. The Israeli military has justified this closure by the need to protect the Bet Haggai settlement (population approximately 550), located next to the blocked entrance.

Both Ramallah and Hebron cities function as regional hubs for services and commercial activities, with Ramallah serving also as an important administrative centre. Consequently, the impact of the recent opening is likely to be highly significant. These measures are consistent with a trend observed since mid-2008 entailing improved movement between the main Palestinian towns and cities in the West Bank, with the exception of East Jerusalem. Most of these easings consisted of the opening of blocked routes, while maintaining some of the obstacle infrastructure on the ground.⁸

In the eastern Ramallah governorate, an earth mound blocking a road into three villages (Kufr Malik, Al Mazra'a Al Sharqiya and Khirbet Abu Fallah) was also removed this month. This has facilitated the access of residents in these villages to the Jordan Valley, as well as the passage of Bedouin residing in this area to services provided in the villages (primarily health and education).

Alongside these positive measures, on at least three occasions during July, the Israeli military closed the road gate controlling the northern entrance to 'Azzun village (pop. 9,000), in the Qalqiliya Governorate. While on the first two occasions, the closure was maintained for several hours, the third closure lasted for six consecutive days. According to the military, the closures were implemented following incidents of stone and Molotov-cocktail throwing against Israeli vehicles travelling along Road 55. This has forced the residents of 'Azzun and other villages to its south to resort to detours in order to access services and markets in Qalqiliya and Nablus cities.

These easing of access to Ramallah and Hebron are consistent with a trend since mid-2008 of improved movement between the main West Bank towns and cities with the exception of East Jerusalem.

End notes

1. In 2012, four patients and/or patient-companions were detained at Erez while crossing with a valid permit. WHO monthly monitoring reports, <http://www.emro.who.int/pse/publications-who/monthly-referral-reports.html>
2. However, in July the amount of permitted goods which entered through Kerem Shalom increased by 33 per cent compared to June.
3. Update on the Access Restricted Areas in the Gaza Strip, 1 January to 30 June 2013. http://www.globalprotectioncluster.org/_assets/files/field_protection_clusters/Occupied_Palestinian/files/oPt_PC_ARA_Update_January-June_2013_EN.pdf
4. Protection Cluster members received consistent information that almost all of these incidents were reported to have occurred within the permitted fishing zone applicable at the time of the incident. According to the Protection cluster, in enforcing restriction at sea, "the Government of Israel must ensure that the actions of its security forces ... are consistent with Israel's obligations under international human rights law. In particular, the use of force and firearms must be proportional and in conformity with international standards."
5. For illustration see OCHA, Gaza's Fishermen, Case Study, July 2013.
6. In some cases, farmers are periodically allowed to access their land in the vicinity of settlements, outside the olive harvest season. For example, in April 2012, farmers from more than 30 villages and communities in the Nablus governorate were allocated between two to four days to plough their land, located next to 11 different Israeli settlements.
7. This route is controlled by a partial checkpoint ('Atara checkpoint), which is occasionally staffed exacerbating the traffic congestion.
8. This has typically involved the replacement of roadblocks with road gates, which are generally kept open; the opening of road gates that were normally closed; and the changing of permanently-staffed checkpoints into partial checkpoints staffed on an ad-hoc basis.

CONTRIBUTING AGENCIES

United Nations Children's Fund (UNICEF), United Nations Development Programme (UNDP), United Nations Development Fund for Women (UNIFEM), 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 Office for the High Commissioner of Human Rights (OHCHR), United Nations Population Fund (UNFPA), United Nations Relief and Works Agency for Palestine Refugees in the Near East (UNRWA), United Nations Special Coordinator for the Middle East Peace Process (UNSCO), World Food Programme (WFP), World Health Organization (WHO), Al Haq, Badil, Save the Children (UK), Defence for Children International – Palestine Section (DCI-PS), Oxfam GB, Palestine Hydrology Group (PHG), Campaign for the Right to Enter, Action Against Hunger (ACF).

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Annex: Monthly Indicator Tables

Conflict-related casualties and violence¹

Direct Israeli-Palestinian conflict related casualties

	2011	2012				2013						
	Total	Oct	Nov	Dec	Total	Jan	Feb	Mar	April	May	June	July
Palestinian deaths												
Gaza	108	14	180	2	253	2	0	0	1	0	0	0
West Bank	17	0	3	2	9	4	0*	2	2	0	0	1
Total	125	14	177	4	262	6	3	2	3	0	0	1
Of whom are civilians ²	62	0	114	4	136	6	3	2	2	0	0	1
Of whom are female	3	0	22	0	23	1	0	0	0	0	0	0

Palestinian injuries

Gaza	468	29	1516**	21	1834	14	10	5	4	2	2	2
West Bank	1647	57	740	177	3175	254	756	492	657	458	125	135
Total	2115	86	2257	198	5009	268	766	497	661	460	127	137
Of whom are civilians	2054	59	na	179	n/a	268	766	496	660	460	127	137
Of whom are female	151	8	na	13	n/a	8	13	14	9	12	8	12

Israeli deaths

Israel, Gaza and West Bank	11	0	6	0	7	0	0	0	1	0	0	0
Of whom are civilians	11	0	3	0	3	0	0	0	1	0	0	0
Of whom are female	0	0	1	0	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	0

Israeli injuries

Israel, Gaza and West Bank	122	1	253***	6	345	6	24	42****	18	33	1	11
Of whom are civilians	56	6	na	4	60	3	11	18	4	14	1	8
Of whom are female	3	0	na	1	7	0	1	1	2	4	0	0

*The figure does not include two Palestinians who died of injuries they sustained by Israeli forces during the second intifada and by Israeli settlers in 2005

** Figures include those provided by the Ministry of Health in Gaza during the recent Israeli offensive on Gaza (14-21 November)

*** Figures by the Israeli Ministry of Foreign Affairs

**** The number of injured Israeli soldiers is provided by COGAT

Tunnel-related casualties³

	2011	2012				2013						
	Total	Oct	Nov	Dec	Total	Jan	Feb	Mar	April	May	June	July
Deaths	36	0	0	0	11	6	2	2	1	3	0	1
Injuries	54	0	0	0	18	6	0	12	1	1	0	0

Israeli-settler related incidents resulting in casualties or property damage

	2011	2012				2013						
	Total	Oct	Nov	Dec	Total	Jan	Feb	Mar	April	May	June	July
Incidents leading to Palestinian casualties ⁴	120	11	7	10	98	7	8	11	17	9	5	6
Incidents leading to Palestinian property/land damages	291	48	20	18	268	17	19	14	34	43	28	21
Incidents leading to Israeli Casualties	23	3	5	5	35	2	2	9	4	5	1	4
Incidents leading to Israeli Property/land damages ⁵	13	0	1	1	15	2	0	0	2	0	1	0

Civilian Palestinians killed or injured by unexploded ordnance in Gaza

		2011	2012				2013						
		Total	Oct	Nov	Dec	Total	Jan	Feb	Mar	April	May	June	July
Adult	Injured	7	1	0	1	12	1	0	0	1	2	0	0
	Killed	1	0	1	0	2	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Child	Injured	17	2	0	0	19	5	5	6	0	3	0	0
	Killed	2	0	0	0	1	1	1	0	0	0	0	0
Grand Total		27	3	1	1	34	7	6	6	1	5	0	0

Source: United Nations Mine Action Service (UNMAS)

Search and Arrest

	2011	2012				2013						
	Monthly Average	Oct	Nov	Dec	Monthly Average	Jan	Feb	Mar	Apr	May	June	July
Search Campaigns (West Bank)	349	319	291	367	338	313	287	282	338	370	461	242
Palestinians detained (West Bank)	262	318	468	391	283	296	411	421	367	459	472	298

Source: OCHA

Palestinians under Israeli custody (occupation related)⁶

	2011	2012				2013						
	Monthly Average	Oct	Nov	Dec	Monthly Average	Jan	Feb	Mar	Apr	May	June	July
Total as of the end of the month	5326	4298	4432	4517	4,451	4593	4713	4764	4748	4801	4827	na
of whom are women	26	11	10	10	7	10	10	11	14	16	14	na
of whom are administrative detainees ⁷	240	156	178	178	245	159	169	164	155	147	137	na
of whom are detained until the conclusion of legal proceedings	633	925	990	1031	897	1069	1118	1196	1216	1194	1150	na

Source: Israeli Prison Service (through B'Tselem)

Demolition of Structures

Structures demolished⁸



	2011	2012				2013						
	Total	Oct	Nov	Dec	Total	Jan	Feb	Mar	Apr	May	June	July
of which in Area C	571	81	28	19	540	120	11	2	40	58	69	20
of which in East Jerusalem	42	2	7	6	64	21	3	1	6	11	2	1
Grand Total	613	83	35	25	604	141	14	2	46	50	71	21

*20 are in Area B

People Displaced due to demolitions or evictions⁹



	2011	2012				2013						
	Total	Oct	Nov	Dec	Total	Jan	Feb	Mar	Apr	May	June	July
of whom were displaced in Area C	1006	135	0	14	815	243	6	0	40	28	105	52
of whom were displaced in East Jerusalem	88	6	29	19	71	14	42	10	24	59	11	25
Grand Total	1094	141	29	33	886	257	48	10	64	87	116	77

Source: Displacement Working Group

Child Protection

Number of Palestinian children killed - direct conflict

	2011	2012				2013						
	Total	Oct	Nov	Dec	Total	Jan	Feb	Mar	Apr	May	June	July
West Bank	2	0	0	1	2	2	0	0	0	0	0	0
Gaza Strip	11	0	40	0	44	0	0	0	0	0	0	0

Number of Palestinian children injured - direct conflict

West Bank	308	7	222	29	427	36	146	162	291	64	35	22
Gaza Strip	125	10	24 - without Gaza war	4	105	3	3	0	2	0	0	0

Number of Israeli children killed - direct conflict

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

Number of Israeli children injured - direct conflict

oPt	0	0	0	0	3	1	0	4	0	0	0	0
Israel	0	0	2	0	2	0	0	0	0	0	0	0

Number of Palestinian children held in detention by Israeli authorities

In Israel and oPt	192 monthly average	164	178	195	198 monthly average	219	236	236	238	223	NA	193
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Number of Palestinian children displaced by demolitions

West Bank, inc EJ	618	87	14	10	474	156	23	5	38	41	43	17
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Number of incidents resulting in the disruption of schools¹⁹

oPt	na	4	297	2	321	1	7	4	8	5	4	2
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Source: OCHA, DWG, Defence for Children International, Israel Palestine Working Group on grave violations affecting children in armed conflict

Access

Access to healthcare - Gaza

	2011	2012				2013						
	2011 Monthly Average	Oct	Nov	Dec	2012 Monthly Average	Jan	Feb	Mar	Apr	May	June	July
Applications for permits to leave Gaza through Erez Crossing ¹⁵	872	789	725	894	777	796	907	882	1155	1117	1165	N/A
of which approved	721	705	629	820	719	738	836	762	957	900	985	N/A
of which denied	19	6	5	4	7	2	2	1	0	1	0	N/A
of which delayed ¹⁶	83	78	91	70	17	56	69	119	198	216	180	N/A

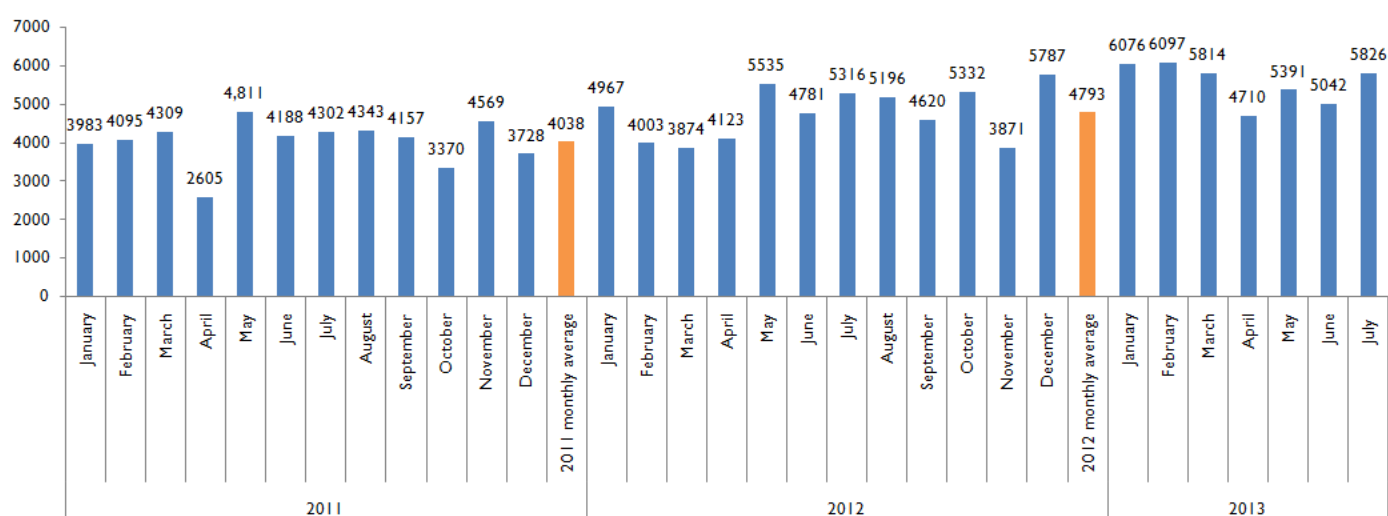
Source: WHO

Movement of humanitarian staff, West Bank

	2011	2012				2013						
	2011 Monthly Average	Oct	Nov	Dec	2012 monthly ave	Jan	Feb	Mar	Apr	May	June	July
Incidents of delayed or denied access at WB checkpoint ¹⁷	38	60	40	22	37.5	34	69	51	24	51	30	N/A
Of which occurred at Jerusalem checkpoint	22	28	26	15	21	18	52	33	10	32	15	N/A
Number of staff days lost due to checkpoint incidents	25	36	16	6	21	8	29	17	6	16	4	N/A

Source: OCHA

Truckloads of goods entering Gaza from Israel











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.

Consolidated Appeals Process (CAP): CAP 2012 and 2013

funding status as of 21 May 2013

Cluster	CAP 2012		CAP 2013	
	Total request in million \$	% of funds received	Total request in million \$	% of funds received
 Agriculture	24,921,339	61.4%	31,665,733	41%
 Cash for Work and Cash Assistance	95,559,928	34.9%	70,481,900	47%
Cluster not yet specified	0	0.0%	0	0%
 Coordination and Support Services	21,167,518	95.7%	21,295,427	138%
 Education	16,662,763	54.7%	22,408,092	31%
 Food Security	170,513,876	83.0%	160,052,254	59%
 Health and Nutrition	20,742,170	86.6%	22,536,007	49%
 Protection	46,131,077	73.8%	53,093,279	51%
 Water, Sanitation and Hygiene	24,208,531	55.8%	19,307,048	26%
Total	419,907,202	72%	400,839,740	57.9%

Source: Financial Tracking System (FTS)

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.