HUMANITARIAN BULLETIN MONTHLY REPORT



NOVEMBER 2014

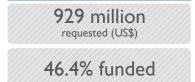
HIGHLIGHTS

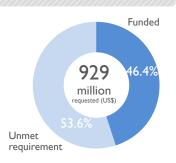
- •Up to 118,000 displaced people in Gaza in need of transitional shelter solutions.
- Concern over the condition of patients waiting to leave or return to Gaza, as the closure of Rafah Crossing with Egypt continues.
- Decline in Israeli settler violence during the annual olive harvest.

NOVEMBER FIGURES

Palestinian civilians killed (direct conflict)	3
Palestinian civilians injured (direct conflict)	984
Structures demolished in the West Bank	48
People displaced in the West Bank	136

STRATEGIC RESPONSE **PLAN 2014**





Overview

Assistance in Gaza must be accompanied by a strengthening of the ceasefire and lifting of the blockade

Shelter needs in the aftermath of this year's hostilities in the Gaza Strip are enormous. Damage assessments are nearly finalized and indicate that over 118,000 housing units have been destroyed or damaged to varying degrees. Up to 19,600 families are currently displaced, many of them in overcrowded and unsustainable conditions. One of the main transitional shelter solutions being pursued is the provision of prefabricated units on temporary displacement sites. However, the

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lack of adequate locations and proper access to services and employment for such sites, along cost-benefit considerations, has raised serious concerns among humanitarian agencies and beneficiaries about the suitability of this approach.





Meanwhile, the entry of construction materials defined by Israel as "dual use items" (cement, gravel and metal bars) into the Gaza Strip during the month fell far short of the amounts required to meet overall repair and reconstruction needs. While the pace of imports of such materials is likely to increase alongside the implementation of the temporary Gaza Reconstruction Mechanism (GRM), the capability of the sole operational crossing, Kerem Shalom, is a significant limiting factor.

The fragile humanitarian conditions in the Gaza Strip have been compounded by the almost total closure of the Rafah crossing with Egypt, the longest closure in over six years, following an attack in the Sinai Peninsula in October. The Ministry of Health estimated that by the end of November, there were over 1,000 patients waiting to exit Gaza, including those with advanced cancer, renal and heart diseases, and orthopedic and ophthalmological needs. This raises concerns about deteriorations in their medical conditions.

The number of people displaced or at risk of displacement is also an issue of concern in the West Bank. During November, the Israeli authorities demolished 46 Palestinian-owned structures in Area C and East Jerusalem, displacing 136 people, half of them children. The cumulative number of people displaced so far in 2014 due to demolitions in the West Bank (nearly 1,200) is the highest in an entire year since 2008, when OCHA began tracking this indicator.

Also of concern are the ongoing levels of tension and violence in Jerusalem. In the gravest incident this month, two Palestinians attacked a synagogue in West Jerusalem, killing four Israelis and a policeman. Clashes with Israeli forces continued across Jerusalem governorate and resulted in the injury of nearly 800 Palestinians during November. The frequency and intensity of clashes declined towards the end of the month following the lifting of some of the access restrictions to Al Aqsa Mosque compound, along with a halt to visits by Israeli politicians to the site.

Support for the forthcoming humanitarian appeal for the oPt is essential to prevent further deterioration in the situation of the most vulnerable residents, but this step alone is insufficient. As highlighted by the UN Assistant Secretary-General for Political Affairs in his briefing to the Security Council this month, the reconstruction of Gaza also requires "a strengthening of the ceasefire, including a lifting of the closure". He warned that: "the continued reality of the close to 50-year long occupation and the lack of progress towards the two-state solution ensure that the next round of violence is never too far below the surface. The time has come for leaders on both sides to make the difficult compromises that will promote stability and ensure long-term security for both Israelis and Palestinians."

The frequency and intensity of clashes in East Jerusalem declined following the lifting of some of the access restrictions to Al Aqsa Mosque compound, along with a halt to visits by Israeli politicians to the site.

THE LARGEST EVER HUMANITARIAN APPEAL FOR OPT CRITICALLY UNDERFUNDED

The bulk of the funding received has been for UNRWA

In 2014, humanitarian partners produced the largest ever humanitarian appeal for the oPt in response to the unprecedented level of human suffering and damage in Gaza

following the July-August conflict. The Strategic Response Plan (SRP), which prior to the conflict stood at US \$390 million, increased to \$920 million following the launch of the Gaza Crisis Appeal.

Despite quick and generous contributions, the SRP remains only 46 per cent funded. The bulk of the funding received in the context of the Gaza Crisis Appeal has been for UNRWA, in particular for projects responding to food insecurity. However, funds received by the UNRWA in the context of the Appeal have been largely exhausted and, unless additional funding is delivered, cash assistance to IDPs could be suspended by the end of January 2015.

Other Humanitarian Country Team (HCT) partners have been engaged in addressing the basic needs of the most vulnerable people in Gaza, including support to basic social services that are beyond UNRWA's mandate. Both refugees and non-refugees remain in need of critical and life saving humanitarian assistance. As in previous years, sectors such as education and WASH have suffered the most from limited funding.

Despite uneven funding, all clusters/sectors have been able to mount a partial response with the funding received:



FOOD SECURITY: immediate food assistance provided to displaced and food insecure people, plus support to those dependent on agricultural livelihoods to restore productive capacities and prevent the complete loss of their assets, particularly seasonal and time-bound activities. The entire population has been reached in at least one type of intervention.



EDUCATION: all of Gaza's almost **500,000** school children have benefitted in some way from the reconstruction and rehabilitation of damaged schools, psychosocial support, or procurement of uniforms, stationery and other student supplies.



HEALTH AND NUTRITION: partners were able to reach some two-thirds of the total **1.8 million** population targeted, whether in meeting the specific needs of trauma patients, providing access to essential health services for IDPs, or referring survivors of conflict-related violence and gender-based violence (GBV) to protection organizations.



PROTECTION: 373,000 of **1.08** million people targeted were provided with psychosocial support to children, community-based child protection responses, Explosive Remnants of War (ERW) risk assessment clearance, disposal and awareness, the monitoring, documentation and reporting of cases and violations of international law, legal assistance and GBV responses.



SHELTER AND NFIs: over half of the **700,000** people targeted were reached through interventions such as safe shelter for IDPs and provision of NFIs, temporary shelter solutions and the immediate repair and rehabilitation of shelters.



WASH: 36 per cent of the 1.4 million people targeted have benefitted from household and community interventions for water for drinking and domestic use, water storage tanks and hygiene kits. Further vulnerable people have also benefitted from repairs to damage incurred to the water and sanitation network.

Following the launch of the Gaza Crisis Appeal, the Strategic Response Plan for 2014 reached \$920 million, of which only 46 per cent was funded. Nevertheless, many needs remain unmet in Gaza. Priorities for the remainder of 2014 and into 2015 will continue to include effective shelter management and support for the displaced to return to adequate housing; provision of basic services; food assistance and support to those whose livelihoods were damaged, promotion of respect for international humanitarian law and human rights law; legal support; psychosocial support; and addressing the risks posed by ERWs. On an immediate basis it will be critical to ensure that adequate winterization takes place for those living in collective centers, transitional shelters, and in damaged homes (*see next section*).

On 9 December, the Humanitarian Coordinator for the oPt launched the 2015 SRP in Geneva. The plan requests \$705 million to implement 207 projects, addressing the needs of 1.6 million vulnerable people across oPt. Over 70 per cent of requirements are to address the continuing high levels of humanitarian vulnerability in Gaza, for which early funding will be essential.

FUNDING: GAZA FLASH APPEAL 2014

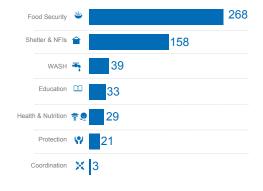
The Gaza Crisis Appeal presents the joint strategy of the humanitarian community, including UNRWA, to respond to the current crisis in the Gaza Strip. The appeal is closely coordinated with the Government of the State of Palestine, including with its Early Recovery and Reconstruction Strategy.



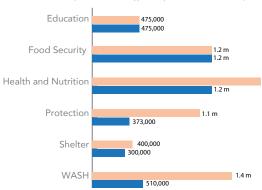
\$297m (54%)



Requirements by cluster (million \$) (As of 8 Sept. 2014)



People in need, targeted and reached* (Gaza Revised Flash Appeal, 9 September 2014 & Cluster Lead



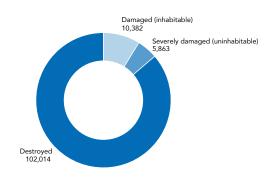
Over 70 per cent of requirements in the upcoming 2015 Appeal are to address the continuing high levels of humanitarian vulnerability in Gaza, for which early funding will be essential.

UPTO 19,600 FAMILIES REMAIN DISPLACED ACROSS THE GAZA STRIP

Initiatives to establish prefabricated units in temporary displacement sites raise serious concerns

Shelter needs in the aftermath of the July-August hostilities are enormous. The nearly final figures emerging from the damage assessments carried out by the Ministry of Public Works and Housing (MoPWH), UNDP and UNRWA indicate that over 118,000 housing units have been affected, of which 12 per cent were totally destroyed, seven percent severely





damaged and rendered uninhabitable, and the rest damaged to varying degrees.¹ It is estimated that up to 19,600 families (118,000 people) living in homes included in the first two categories have been displaced and are in need of medium and long term solutions. Meanwhile, imports of construction materials remain low in light of these needs.

Transitional shelter solutions

IDPs whose homes were totally destroyed or severely damaged are currently accommodated in seven types of arrangements/facilities:

- Host families
- Rented apartments
- 3 Collective centers
- 4 Prefabricated units
- Winterized tents
- 6 Makeshift shelters
- Heavily damaged homes.

Due to the lack of a consolidated registration system and missed opportunities during damage assessments, the precise distribution of IDPs by type of arrangement remains largely unknown, with the exception of those in UNRWA collective centers who account for about 15 per cent of all IDPs (approximately 20,000 people).²

For most of the displaced, the rental of an apartment is considered the optimal solution for the transitional period pending reconstruction, but the available housing stock can accommodate only a small percentage of all IDPs and rental costs have more than doubled. Despite improvements in the quality of services to IDPs, UNRWA-administered shelters, established in 18 schools, are not designed for long-term residence and remain largely overcrowded.

A transitional shelter solution made available to Shelter Cluster partners is the provision of prefabricated units sited individually, in small groups, or in temporary displacement

This section was contributed by the Palestine Shelter & NFI Cluster

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sites of up to 50 units. Currently, there are two temporary displacement sites with prefabricated units established in Khuza'a village (East Khan Younis), housing 75 families, and next to destroyed homes in Beit Hanoun (Northern Gaza), accommodating 100 families.³

Discussions are underway to assess the feasibility of other temporary displacement sites, including near the devastated Ash Shujai'yeh neighbourhood in eastern Gaza City, in Beit Hanoun and in Khan Younis. This is in addition to the distribution of prefabricated units to individual families, usually erected next to their destroyed home or in their neighbourhood. Overall, various international donors have committed to fund approximately 7,000 prefabricated housing units worth at least \$49 million including site preparation and transport.

Over 100,000 housing units need to be built to meet Gaza's housing needs, including the reconstruction of destroyed and severely damaged homes and addressing natural growth needs.



The establishment of large temporary displacement sites with prefabricated units raises significant challenges and concerns. In addition to the relatively high costs, the limited availability of land may lead to cramped sites with inadequate layout. This solution also requires families to relocate yet again and face related difficulties, including access to family support networks, services and employment opportunities.

The experience of families already accommodated in prefabricated units has been problematic with scant attention given to the need for support to IDP communities. A survey conducted by MoPWH indicates that less than 30 per cent of affected families are willing to relocate to prefabricated units, and only if those units are located next to their former homes. This latter option makes rubble removal difficult and poses significant risks to families.

Given the limited life of prefabricated units and the importance of focusing on the need for construction materials and durable shelter solutions, the appropriateness of this option should be reconsidered. The \$49 million already pledged by donors for prefabricated units could, instead, be used to repair over 32,000 homes with minor damage, or 8,000 unfinished apartments, both of which would offer transitional solutions to accommodate IDPs, while the latter would also provide a much-needed boost to housing stock.

Reconstruction

Entry of building materials for reconstruction remains far below the amount required, particularly those materials considered by the Israeli authorities as "dual use items", including aggregates, steel reinforcing bars and cement. During November, only 287 trucks carrying these three items entered Gaza, slightly less than the previous month, and less than half of what is required *on a daily basis* to sustain the reconstruction schedule. Imports in November constituted only 13 per cent of the equivalent figure in July 2013 when the private sector was permitted to import these materials.⁴

The Shelter Cluster estimates that over 100,000 housing units need to be built to meet Gaza's housing needs, including the reconstruction of destroyed and severely damaged homes and addressing natural growth needs. To accomplish this within the three to five-year time frame planned, the inflow of construction materials into Gaza should be 735 truckloads *per day*, seven days a week for three years, or 441 truckloads seven days per week for five years.⁵ This would require a significant expansion of the current crossing capacity because the Kerem Shalom crossing can reportedly handle only approximately 500 trucks a day of all types of goods. Between 2007 and 2010, Israel unilaterally closed the Karni, Sufa and Nahal Oz commercial crossings with Gaza.

The Temporary Gaza Reconstruction Mechanism (GRM), which has been up and running since September 2014, allows families whose homes have been assessed to purchase restricted building materials from designated private sector vendors authorized to import the materials. As of 9 December, 8,000 individuals whose houses had been assessed had been informed that they can purchase construction materials; approximately 70 per cent of these individuals have actually procured some of the materials, depending on their financial resources.

Less than 30 per cent of affected families are willing to relocate to prefabricated units and only if those units are located next to their former homes.

Some agencies have faced technical challenges such as delays in the lists of eligible names and amounts of materials needed. Sales of stocks of the available materials are also slower than anticipated. A major difficulty is the lack of financial resources, many families do not have the means to purchase the required materials because they have not received the payments they are eligible for.

UNRWA has so far disbursed \$19.5million for repairs to families whose homes sustained damage and \$1.5million for TSCA to families whose housing unit was totally destroyed or rendered uninhabitable. UNDP is currently supporting 750 families with TSCA, and anticipates expanding its response to support a further 1,500 families. Shelter actors dedicated to meeting emergency winterization, transitional shelter and repair and reconstruction needs of refugee and non-refugee cases remain severely underfunded.

Despite formal authorization, many families do not have the means to purchase the required materials for reconstruction because they have not received the payments they are eligible for.

FLOODING AFFECTS IDPS IN PREFABRICATED UNITS

Displaced families living in prefabricated units experience harsh living conditions, especially in winter conditions, and IDPs in Khuza'a's two temporary displacement sites are no exception. Following heavy rain at the end of October and early November, families in the two sites experienced flooding and leaks when water seeped through the ceiling, along windowsills and under doors. With no provision for rain or storm water drainage, the sewage system overflowed and caused sewage to flood several prefabricated units, soaking family homes and their belongings. International organizations and the Municipality of Khuza'a have responded to the crisis to minimize flooding incidents. With funding from UNICEF, implementation by Action Against Hunger (ACF) through a local contractor, and facilitation by the municipality, sandbag barriers have been set up around both sites. Although heavier rain fell in the last week of November, no flooding took place in the sites, indicating success.



WINTER RAINS CAUSED FLOODING ACROSS GAZA

Gaza remains ill-prepared for large-scale weather events

Heavy rains at the end of November (24-27 November) caused localized flooding in multiple areas across the Gaza Strip. These include the Sheikh Radwan, Nafaq, Manara and Saftawi areas in Gaza City; the Al-Amal area and a section of Salah ad-Din road in Khan Younes; the Abu Rashid area in Jabaliya; and the Mashrou' area in Beit Lahiya.



While no injuries were reported, a number of people were temporarily displaced from their homes, including some 350 people, who went to UNRWA collective shelters. Most of these families left the collective shelters soon after the rains ended. Two government schools in Gaza City and in northern Gaza also opened and temporarily hosted a small number of people. These families received some material assistance from humanitarian actors, including the Palestinian Red Crescent (PRCS) and UNRWA. Hundreds of people in the area in and around the Sheikh Radwan storm water lagoon in Gaza City evacuated their homes and relocated, mostly to the upper floors of buildings in the area. Classes were suspended in northern Gaza and Gaza City in the afternoon of 27 November, but resumed on 30 November.

Despite limited means and reduced response capacity, all actors engaged in activities of preparedness prior to the anticipated winter weather. The PRCS distributed information leaflets on flood preparedness as an awareness raising measure to ensure that people evacuated in a timely manner. Under the coordination of OCHA, UNRWA delivered some 60,000 litres of emergency fuel to various service providers in the WASH and health sectors and to municipalities. Humanitarian agencies have prepositioned NFIs, and mobile pumps and heavy equipment were deployed to remove rubble and clear drains in vulnerable areas.

Palestinian Civil Defence (PCD) teams assisted in pumping away flood and sewage water, while municipal services assisted in drainage clearing, rubble removal and the establishment of an artificial lagoon to divert overflow water in Gaza City. In response to the last storm, the Coastal Municipalities Water Utility (CMWU), with support from the ICRC and in cooperation with Gaza Municipality, installed a temporary pipeline to expand the evacuation capacity of the main storm water retention lagoon of Gaza City in Sheikh Radwan. The entry of materials for these pipelines was expedited in three days. Five mobile pumps were procured after winter storm Alexa in December 2013, via ERF funding, when some 21,000 people were temporarily displaced. These pumps entered Gaza in August 2014 and now make a significant contribution to controlling flooding. However, at least seven additional mobile pumps are still required to cover needs across the Gaza Strip.

Hundreds of people in the area in and around the Sheikh Radwan storm water lagoon in Gaza City evacuated their homes and relocated due to flooding.



Latest Developments

The Rafah crossing was partially opened for the return of Palestinian travelers into Gaza for four days (26, 26, and 30 November and I December) and around 3,200 people were allowed in.

By the end of November, 30,000 people were estimated to be waiting to exit Gaza and up to 6,000 stranded in Egypt or in other countries.

While the impact of the November rains remained localized, Gaza is ill-prepared for larger winter weather events due to a lack of materials and poor funding of services that puts a strain on all basic services (health, WASH, energy), while compromising the ability to carry out essential infrastructure and reconstruction upgrades.

I.8 MILLION PEOPLE 'LOCKED IN' DUE TO THE CLOSURE OF RAFAH CROSSING AND ISRAEL'S BLOCKADE

Medical conditions of patients delayed are likely to deteriorate

On 24 October, the Egyptian authorities closed the Rafah crossing between Egypt and the Gaza Strip until further notice. This followed an attack in the northern Egyptian city of Al Arish, reportedly carried out by radical groups based in the Sinai Peninsula, in which over 30 Egyptian military personnel died.

Given the severe restrictions on the movement of people in and out of Gaza via Israel, the closure of Rafah prevents the Palestinian population from exiting, while thousands of others cannot return. The current closure of Rafah crossing is the longest recorded since 2007 and raises a range of humanitarian issues.

By the end of November, 30,000 people were estimated to be waiting to exit Gaza via Rafah, including some 10,000 registered with the Border and Crossings Authority in Gaza. Additionally, there were up to 6,000 Palestinians stranded in Egypt or waiting to return from other countries.

The greatest humanitarian concern is deterioration in the medical conditions of patients seeking treatment abroad or waiting to return home. The Ministry of Health (MoH) estimated that around 1,000 patients were waiting to exit Gaza with conditions including advanced cancer, renal and heart diseases, and orthopedic and ophthalmological needs.

Around 15 medical staff and 1,000 patients stranded outside of Gaza face delays in the continuation of their treatment and at least three life-saving surgeries per week are postponed in Gaza.

Additionally, five foreign medical teams due to arrive in Gaza during November have suspended their travel. In September 2014, ten medical delegations from Kuwait, Sudan, Egypt, Jordan, Germany, France and Morocco were allowed to cross into Gaza from Egypt.

Many Palestinian travelers trying to return home to the Gaza Strip via Cairo airport reported that, due to closure of the Rafah crossing, holders of travel documents issued by the Palestinian Authority are not permitted to board a plane, unless they have a valid visa or residence permit issued by Egypt. Others reported being returned by the Egyptian authorities to the countries they flew in from, at their own expense, or detained in Cairo airport.

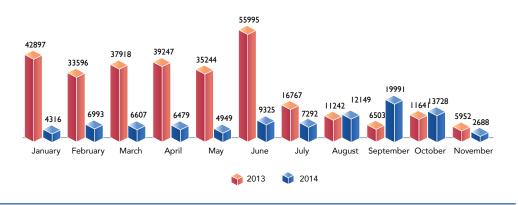
Many of those stranded in Egypt are unable to afford their living expenses and some have approached the Palestinian Embassy in Cairo to request financial support. The Embassy stated recently that it has provided small cash sums to over 800 stranded Palestinians, and rented accommodation for a limited number of patients.

The operation of the Rafah crossing has reduced gradually since July 2013, following reports of insecurity and violence against Egyptian security forces in the Sinai. In June 2013 nearly 1,400 people crossed Rafah in both directions every day; this number had reduced to an average of 300 per day just prior to the July-August 2014 war. Movement through the crossing was limited to humanitarian cases only: patients, students, pilgrims, and foreign passport and residency permit holders.

Movement of goods

The closure of Rafah also brought to a halt the entry of construction materials for projects funded by Qatar, as well as selected humanitarian consignments. Since the beginning of 2014, the Egyptian authorities have allowed 358 truckloads of humanitarian items to enter Gaza via Rafah, including medical supplies. According to the Ministry of Health (MOH) in Gaza, prior to July 2013, 30 per cent of medicines and 25 per cent of medical

Number of people who crossed Rafah in both directions in 2014 & 2013



Everyone has the right to leave any country, including his own, and to return to his country.

Universal Declaration of Human Rights, Article 13 FAO contributed to the drafting of this section

The pace and volume of transfers has been hampered by lack of clarity regarding technical issues, including official information on Israeli requirements for the packaging of goods.

disposables supplied to Gaza were donations entering via Rafah. The entry of construction materials for Qatari-funded projects has had to be rechanneled and these were delivered from Egypt to Gaza via Israel. As a result, Gaza is now entirely dependent on the Kerem Shalom crossing with Israel.

LIMITED RESUMPTION OF COMMERCIAL TRANSFERS FROM GAZA TO WEST BANK MARKETS

Fewer than 150 trucks have left Gaza in 2014, compared to 9,300 in 2005

On 6 November 2014, the first transfer in 2014 of goods from Gaza to the West Bank took place when one truckload containing 10 tonnes of cucumbers exited to Hebron. By the end of November a total of 49 truckloads (approx. 420 tonnes) carrying a range of vegetables, strawberries, dates and fish were delivered to West Bank markets, generating an estimated income of approximately US\$180,000 (excluding the fish).

The exit of goods from Gaza to traditional markets in the West Bank and Israel came to a halt in the blockade imposed by Israeli from June 2007. The partial resumption of transfers to the West Bank this month represents part of the relaxation measures announced by Israel following the ceasefire ending the July-August war. The transfer of non-agricultural items to the West Bank, such as clothing and furniture, is also expected to resume in the coming month.

Palestinians have reported that the pace and volume of transfers has been hampered by lack of clarity regarding technical issues, including official information on Israeli requirements for the packaging of goods. According to local producers and exporters, proposals for amendments to the existing procedures to increase the volume of goods transferred have been rejected by the Israeli authorities, thereby jeopardizing the economic viability of these activities.

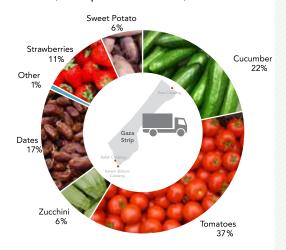
POSSIBLE MEASURES TO FACILITATE EXPORTS AND TRANSFERS

- Allow the resumption of exports to Israel;
- Re-open currently closed crossings for cargo activities;
- Relax restrictions on the entry of agricultural vehicles, equipment, fertilizer and pesticides;
- Allow the transfer of containers, making use of the Kerem Shalom scanner to address security concerns;
- Extend the opening hours and processing capacity of the Kerem Shalom crossing (e.g. aftersunset operations using artificial lights);
- Increase the maximum height of cargo loads to international standards of 1.9 metres;
- Install shaded areas and reduce waiting times to limit the decay of perishable fresh agricultural produce;
- Lift the current requirement to wrap pallets of agricultural goods, which negatively impacts the quality of produce;
- Bring the dormant Palestinian-Israeli Coordination Committee for Agricultural Goods back into operation.

In 2005, more than 9,300 truckloads of goods exited Gaza, mostly destined for Israel and the West Bank, and nearly 6,000 in the first half of 2007 prior to the take-over by Hamas and the imposition of the blockade. Since 2010, Israel has allowed the exit of specified goods (mostly agricultural produce) only to overseas markets, where products produced in Gaza are largely non-competitive. To date in 2014, fewer than 150 trucks have left Gaza and exports ceased completely for five months between June and October.

Value of Gaza exports and transfers by product

(30 Sept - 4 Dec 2014)



The impact on the livelihoods of farmers and fisherman has been compounded by Israeli restrictions imposed on access to farming land along Gaza's perimeter fence and to fishing waters along the coast on the grounds of security. Both sectors suffered extensive losses during the war in July and August.

The resumption of food exports and transfers on a significant scale would boost the private sector and increase the resilience of residents. The full lifting of the blockade would be an important step, alongside measures to ensure easier and more reliable access to external markets (see box on recommended steps).

RECORD NUMBER OF DISPLACEMENTS DUE TO WEST BANK DEMOLITIONS IN 2014

Concern over ongoing practice of punitive demolitions

During November, the Israeli authorities demolished or removed a total of 48 Palestinian-owned structures across the West Bank, including East Jerusalem. All but one structure were demolished on the grounds of lack of a building permit. In total, 136 people were displaced, half of them children. While the number of structures demolished this month is slightly below the monthly average recorded in the previous ten months of 2014, the number of displaced people is higher. The cumulative number of people displaced so far in 2014 is nearly 1,200, the highest such figure recorded by OCHA in an entire year since it began tracking this indicator in 2008.

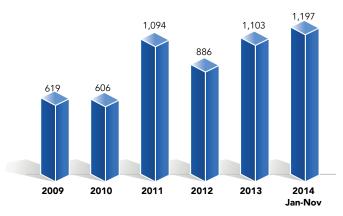
East Jerusalem

Eleven structures, including seven residences, were demolished in East Jerusalem and around 30 people were displaced. Three of these houses were demolished by their owners to avoid paying the fine they would be charged for demolition by the Israeli authorities.

Another house was demolished in Silwan on 19 November on punitive grounds, citing security and deterrence needs, and resulted in the displacement of seven people. The

The resumption of food exports and transfers on a significant scale would boost the private sector and increase the resilience of residents.

People displaced in the West Bank (total)



residence belonged to the family of a 20-year-old Palestinian who ran over Israeli pedestrians at a light rail station in East Jerusalem on 22 October, killing an infant and a woman, before he was killed by Israeli forces. Five other families in East Jerusalem have been served with similar demolition orders.

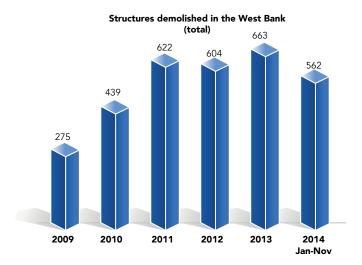
On 3 December, the Humanitarian Coordinator for the oPt issued a statement highlighting the illegality of punitive demolitions and calling for an immediate freeze of this practice. Also this month, seven Israeli human rights organizations filed a petition with the Israeli High Court of Justice challenging the legality of the practice and demanding its suspension (*see box below*).

Area C

The remaining 37 structures demolished this month were in Area C, around 60 per cent of them recorded in the Jordan Valley. The community most affected was Bardala (Tubas), where 13 residences and two livelihood structures were demolished, displacing



The Humanitarian Coordinator for the oPt issued a statement highlighting the illegality of punitive demolitions and calling for an immediate freeze of this practice.



around 40 people. While only a very small part of this community is in Area C (the bulk is defined as B), residents are highly vulnerable due to the proximity of this area to a military "firing zone". The remaining demolitions took place in four Palestinian Bedouin communities in Qalqiliya, Jericho, Hebron and Ramallah governorates.

Six of the affected structures were donor-funded, including a recently renovated agricultural road and a water connection under construction in a Jordan Valley community, Tell al Khashabah, located within a military "firing zone".

The Israeli authorities also delivered demolition and stop-work orders against 12 donorfunded residential structures in the Bedouin community of Wadi Beit Hanina in the

THE ILLEGALITY OF PUNITIVE DEMOLITIONS

The Israeli authorities refer to a provision in the Emergency Defence Regulations of 1945 enacted by the British Mandate in Palestine as a purported legal basis for punitive demolitions. The alleged rationale is that such demolitions deter potential perpetrators from carrying out attacks and may encourage family members who are aware of a future attack to try and prevent it. The effectiveness of punitive demolitions as a deterrent has been questioned, including by an Israeli military committee that recommended suspension of this practice in 2005.

The destruction of private property in an occupied territory is prohibited under international humanitarian law (IHL), unless "such destruction is rendered absolutely necessary by military operations".⁶ Punitive demolitions do not fall within this exception. Punitive demolitions are also a form of collective penalty prohibited under IHL as they target the family members of a perpetrator, or alleged perpetrator, who are not involved in the alleged acts.⁷

Additionally, depending on the specific circumstances, this practice runs counter to a range of rights and protections embodied in various international legal instruments that are legally binding on Israel. These include the right to a fair trial and due process, including the presumption of innocence; the prohibition on cruel, inhuman and degrading treatment or punishment; the right to property; the right to adequate housing and to choose one's residence; the prohibition on forced evictions; the prohibition on forcible transfers; and the right not to be subjected to arbitrary or unlawful interference in one's privacy, family or home.

All of this month's demolitions in Area C targeted Bedouin and herding communities.

This section is based on contributions from the Norwegian Refugee Council and the Office of the High Commissioner of Human Rights

Jerusalem governorate, and requested an implementing agency to remove five others in Khashem al Karem community (Hebron). Since the latter structures have demolition orders pending, the request may indicate that their demolition is imminent.

2014 OLIVE HARVEST SEASON: POOR YIELD DESPITE DECLINE IN SETTLER VIOLENCE

Limited access to agricultural land continues to be a challenge

The 2014 olive harvest season, which ended this month, was reported to have proceeded relatively smoothly. Settler attacks against Palestinian farmers and their land declined and there were improvements in access to agricultural land behind the Barrier or located close to Israeli settlements. However, Israeli restrictions embodied in the permit and "prior coordination" regime continue to challenge Palestinian farmers. The olive harvest this year is the second consecutive poor season, primarily due to adverse weather conditions.

Decline in settler violence

This season, OCHA recorded a total of 24 olive harvest-related incidents of settler violence resulting in property damage or injuries, down from the 33 in 2013 and 66 in 2012. Half of the incidents (16) involved the vandalism of 298 olive trees; this is a significant reduction compared with the previous two years (1,522 in 2013; 986 in 2012). Over two-thirds of all incidents took place in the northern West Bank.

In five additional cases (not included in the figures above), Israeli forces denied farmers access to their groves or prevented them from completing harvesting of their olives, which resulted in farmers losing time from the already restricted schedule allocated.

The decline in settler violence may be attributed, at least partially, to the enhanced deployment of Israeli military forces in sensitive areas around Israeli settlements, in some cases alongside staff acting as a protective presence under the coordination of the Protection Cluster.⁸ Additionally, the presence of Palestinian farmers and their families in the field was shorter and involved less people than usual due to this year's poor yield.

Increase in permits to access land behind the Barrier

A total of 150 Palestinian communities have land located between the Barrier and the Green Line. To access their groves behind the Barrier, farmers are obliged to obtain a special permit or arrange for "prior coordination" with the Israeli authorities. If approved, farmers have to cross designated Barrier gates and checkpoints.

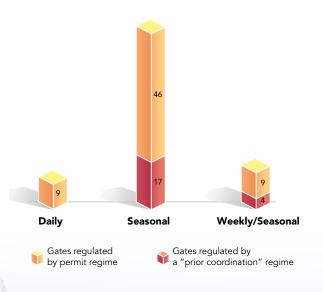
Most of the crossings along the Barrier are only open during the olive harvest period and only for a limited amount of time on those days, prohibiting year-round access. In total, as of this year's olive harvest, there were 85 gates¹¹ designated for agricultural access, of which only nine open daily, 13 open for some day(s) during the week and during the olive season; and the majority, 63, only open during the olive season.

The decline in settler violence may be attributed, at least partially, to the enhanced deployment of Israeli military forces in sensitive areas around Israeli settlements.

LIMITED ACCESS UNDERMINES PRODUCTIVITY9

Productivity data collected by OCHA in the northern West Bank over the last five years show that olive trees in the 'Seam Zone' have an approximately 60 per cent reduction in yield compared to their equivalent on the 'Palestinian' side of the Barrier, where essential activities such as ploughing, pruning, fertilizing and pest and weed management can be carried out collectively by family members on a regular basis.¹⁰

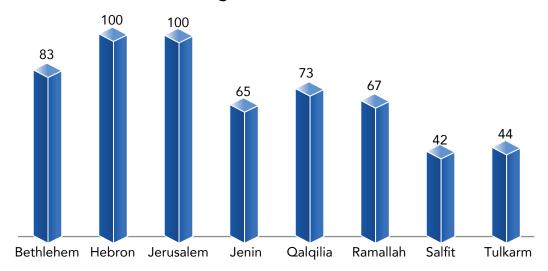
Data obtained by OCHA from Palestinian DCLs across the West Bank indicate that the rate of approval for permit applications to access land behind the Barrier during the olive harvest season was approximately 60 per cent, up from around 50 per cent in 2013. The total number of applications this year declined by seven per cent compared with the previous year, from approximately 15,700 to 14,600. These figures are far



The rate of approval for permit applications to access land behind the Barrier during the olive harvest season was approximately 60 per cent, up from around 50 per cent in 2013.



Permit approval rate for olive harvest activities, by governorate



lower than the potential number of farmers that could access land behind the Barrier if allowed; this is because, as a rule, people whose applications were denied in the past twice or more stop applying. The highest rates of approval were in the Bethlehem, Hebron and Jerusalem governorates, which contain the smallest areas of land behind the Barrier and therefore, the lowest number of affected farmers.

End notes

- 1. Gaza Shelter & NFI Cluster SitRep: 9 November 2014
- 2. For details of the new management system applied by UNRWA in these collective centers, see OCHA, Humanitarian Bulletin, October 2014.
- 3. http://www.nrc.no/?did=9188937. The former site was established by the NGO Human Appeal International and is currently administered by the Municipality of Khuza'a.
- 4. Gaza Shelter Cluster: ABC Materials (November 2014 update).
- 5. Shelter Cluster Palestine: Gaza Shelter Update 11 October 2014.
- 6. Article 53, Fourth Geneva Convention of 1949.
- 7. Article 33, Fourth Geneva Convention of 1949.
- 8. For further details on protective presence, see OCHA, The Humanitarian Bulletin, September 2014.
- 9. For more information on produce productivity see OCHA, In the Spotlight: 10 Years since the International Court of Justice (ICJ) Advisory Opinion.
- For further details on protective presence, see OCHA, The Humanitarian Bulletin, March 2014
- 11. This figure excludes the seven checkpointsnot used to access agricultural land, but used by residents of the "Seam Zone" to reach workplaces and essential services in the remainder of the West Bank.

Annex: Monthly Indicator Tables Conflict-related casualties and violence

Direct Israeli-Palestinian	2011	2012	\bigcap	20	13		\bigcap						20	14				
conflict related casualties	Total	Total	Oct	Nov	Dec	Total	Jan	Feb	Mar	Apr	May	June	July	Aug	Sep*	Oct	Nov	Total
Palestinian deaths				•	·									1				1
Gaza	108	264	I	3	2	11	4	2	5	0	0	6	1564	676	12	0	I	2270
West Bank	17	8	3	6	3	27	2	ı	6	0	2	6	15	7	5	4	2	50
Total	125	272	4	9	5	38	6	3	П	0	2	12	1579	683	17	4	3	2320
Of whom are civilians ²	62	136	2	6	5	32	5	3	7	0	2	8	1,116	469	14	4	3	1631
Of whom are female	3	23	0	0	0	I	0	I	ı	0	0	0	505	144	0	0	0	65 I
Palestinian injuries																		
Gaza	468	1485	ı	5	28	83	43	43	19	37	20	39	10,	895	3	7	9	11115
West Bank	1647	3175	104	315	131	3881	176	173	209	265	246	287	2213	626	203	284	975	5657
Total	2115	4660	105	320	159	3964	219	216	228	302	266	326	13,	734	206	291	984	16772
Of whom are civilians	2054	n/a	104	320	158	3959	216	219	234	281	265	324	NA	NA	206	291	984	3020
Of whom are female	151	n/a	4	15	20	158	4	2	5	27	14	26	21	42	3	15	5	2243
Israeli deaths																		
Israel, Gaza and West Bank	- 11	7	0	0	ı	4	0	0	0	0	0	3	7	Ί	0	2	8	84
Of whom are civilians	11	3	0	0	ı	2	0	0	0	0	0	3	4	4	0	2	6	15
Of whom are female	0	I	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	I	I	2
Israeli injuries						•			•						•			
Israel, Gaza and West Bank	122	345	15	5	4	151	9	6	5	15	28	5	NA	NA	23	38	59	188
Of whom are civilians	56	60	9	2	3	74	8	5	0	6	9	4	NA	NA	10	19	41	102
Of whom are female	3	7	I	0	I	10	I	0	0	ı	ı	0	NA	NA	2	4	I	10

Incidents veleted to	2011	2012		20	13								20	14				
Incidents related to tunnels ³	Total	Total	Oct	Nov	Dec	Total	Jan	Feb	Mar	Apr	May	June	July	Aug	Sep	Oct	Nov	Total
Deaths	36	11	ı	0	0	17	4	0	0	0	0	6	0	0	0	0	0	6
Injuries	54	18	0	0	0	14	I	0	10	0	0	3	0	0	0	0	0	14

Israeli-settler related	2011	2012		20	13								20	14				
incidents resulting in casualties or property damage	Total	Total	Oct	Nov	Dec	Total	Jan	Feb	Mar	Apr	May	June	July	Aug	Sep	Oct	Nov	Total
Incidents leading to Palestinian casualties ⁴	120	98	9	4	3	94	7	6	9	10	7	13	51	6	3	5	14	131
Incidents leading to Palestinian property/land damages	291	268	36	24	6	306	16	17	24	26	20	17	24	12	5	18	17	196
Subtotal: incidents affecting Palestinians	411	366	45	27	9	399	23	23	33	36	27	30	75	18	8	23	31	327
Incidents leading to Israeli Casualties	23	35	4	3	3	38	6	3	0	3	3	ı	14	14	9	8	16	77
Incidents leading to Israeli Property/land damages ⁵	13	15	0	I	3	12	0	I	I	3	8	П	9	7	25	25	22	112
Subtotal: incidents affecting settlers	36	50	4	4	6	50	6	4	ı	6	П	12	23	21	34	33	38	189

Civilian Palesti	nians killed	2011	2012	\bigcap	20	13								2014	1				
or injured by ordnance in Ga		Total	Total	Oct	Nov	Dec	Total	Jan	Feb	Mar	Apr	May	June	July	Aug	Sep	Oct	Nov	Total
Adult	Injured	7	12	0	0	0	4	0	0	4	0	0	0	0	15	I	0	5	27
Adult	Killed	I	2	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	6	3	0	0	7
Cl.:L	Injured	17	19	0	0	0	19	0	0	7	ı	0	0	0	0	2	0	2	12
Child	Killed	2	ı	0	ı	0	3	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	ı	0	I
Grand Total		27	34	0	ı	0	26	0	0	П	ı	0	0	0	21	6	I	7	47

Source: United Nations Mine Action Service (UNMAS)

Child Protection

Number of Palestinian	2011	2012		20)13								2014					
children killed - direct conflict	Total	Total	Oct	Nov	Dec	Total	Jan	Feb	Mar	Apr	May	June	July	Aug	Sep	Oct	Nov	Total
West Bank	2	2	0	0	ı	4	0	0	ı	0	2	2	2	2	ı	2	0	12
Gaza Strip	П	44	0	0	I	I	I	0	0	0	0	I	372	163	0	0	0	537
Number of Palestinian chi	ldren inj	ured - d	direct	t con	flict													
West Bank	308	427	25	132	33	1232	39	46	62	83	73	237	167	167	69	58	109	946
Gaza Strip	125	105	0	0	0	10	4	7	6	9	76		3,306		0	0	I	3474
Number of Israeli children	n killed -	direct o	onfli	ct														
oPt	I	I	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	2	I	0	0	I	I	5
Israel	l	I	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Number of Israeli children	n injured	- direct	t con	flict														
oPt	0	3	0	0	I	6	0	I	0	0	ı	0	NA	N/A	ı	0	ı	4
Israel	0	2	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	NA	NA	0	0	0	0
Number of Palestinian chi	ldren he	ld in de	tenti	on by	/ Isra	eli au	thori	ties										
In Israel and oPt	192 monthly average	198 monthly average	159	173	154	197 monthly average	183	230	202	196	214	202	192	201	128	163	N/A	194 monthly average
Number of Palestinian chi	ldren di	placed	by d	emol	itions	5												
West Bank, inc EJ	618	474	19	29	75	558	114	28	21	90	99	21	4	83	87	44	70	642
Number of incidents resu	ting in t		ıptio		choo					1			1	1		1		
oPt	na	321	NA	NA	NA	47	19	13	9	17	5	15	0	4	23	N/A	N/A	NA

Souce: OCHA, Defence for Children Inernational, Israel Palestine Working Group on grave violatons affecting children in armed conflict

Access

	2011	2012		20	13								2014					
Access to healthcare - Gaza	2011 Monthly Average	2012 Monthly Average	Oct	Nov	Dec	Mon. Ave.	Jan	Feb	Mar	Apr	May	June	July	Aug	Sep	Oct	Nov	Mon. Ave.
Applications for permits to leave Gaza through Erez Crossing 15	872	777	1420	1347	1362	1148	1538	1,485	1,806	1,677	1714	1,799	1,093	946	1561	1038	N/A	1513
of which approved	721	719	1314	1227	1181	1010	1350	1,289	1,553	1,308	1470	1,436	716	783	1307	76	N/A	1246
of which denied	19	7	П	5	4	3	37	50	33	31	14	56	70	20	41	213	N/A	39
of which delayed ¹⁶	83	17	95	115	177	135	151	146	220	338	230	307	307	143	213	15	N/A	228

Source:WHO

Manager	2011	2012	\bigcap	20	13								2014	1				
Movement of humanitarian staff, West Bank	2011 Monthly Average	2012 monthly ave	Oct	Nov	Dec	Mon. Ave.	Jan	Feb	Mar	Apr	May	June	July	Aug	Sep	Oct	Nov	Mon. Ave.
Incidents of delayed or denied access at WB checkpoint ¹⁷	38	37.5	30	23	17	40.1	П	31	20	39	21	41	12	33	38	31	39	29
Of which occurred at Jerusalem checkpoint	22	21	10	8	5	22.3	I	9	4	12	6	11	3	21	14	4	6	8
Number of staff days lost due to checkpoint incidents	25	21	13	13	3	18.5	2.5	26	29	35	41	52	10.5	19	26.5	9.5	32	26

Source: OCHA

Search and Arrest

	2011	2012		20	013								2014					
	Monthly Average	Monthly Average	Oct	Nov	Dec	Mon. Ave.	Jan	Feb	Mar	Apr	May	June	July	Aug	Sep	Oct	Nov	Mon. Ave.
Search Campaigns (West Bank)	349	338	281	435	250	316	434	236	475	325	420	767	411	292	353	422	409	413
Palestinians detained (West Bank)	262	283	314	529	262	380	491	295	581	344	619	883	826	472	467	562	631	561

Source: OCHA

Palestinians under	2011	2012		20	013		\bigcap						2014					
Israeli custody (occupation related) ⁶	Monthly Average	Monthly Average	Oct	Nov	Dec	Mon. Ave.	Jan	Feb	Mar	Apr	May	June	July	Aug	Sep	Oct	Nov	Mon. Ave.
Total as of the end of the month	5326	4,451	4753	4785	4,768	4,760	4,881	4,961	4,999	5,021	5,053	5,318	5,383	5,505	5,439	5477	N/A	5204
of whom are women	26	7	12	12	15	12	14	17	18	18	16	15	17	17	15	14	N/A	16
of whom are administrative detainees ⁷	240	245	143	143	150	148	175	181	186	191	196	363	446	473	468	457	N/A	314
of whom are detained until the conclusion of legal proceedings	633	897	1301	1301	1,351	1,188	1376	1470	1471	1,495	1,476	1,497	1,577	1,650	1,623	1609	N/A	1524

Source: Israeli Prison Service (through B'Tselem)

Demolition of Structures

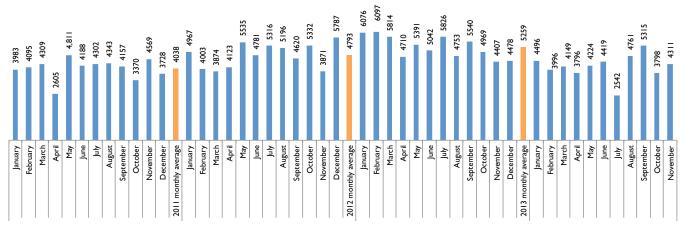
Structures demolished⁸

	2011	2012	\bigcap	20)13		\bigcap						2014					
	Total	Total	Oct	Nov	Dec	Total	Jan	Feb	Mar	Apr	May	June	July	Aug	Sep	Oct	Nov	Tota
of which in Area C	571	540	13	19	88	565	101	17	5	88	70	30	6	24	58	27	37	469
of which in East Jerusalem	42	64	8	6	0	98	7	9	9	4	4	6	2	5	3	23	П	83
Area A	NA	NA	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	2	2	I	0	0	5
Area B	NA	NA	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	5	0	0	0	5
Grand Total	622	604	21	25	88	663	106	26	14	92	74	36	10	38	62	50	48	562

People Displaced due	2011	2012	2013				2014											
to demolitions?	Total	Total	Oct	Nov	Dec	Total	Jan	Feb	Mar	Apr	May	June	July	Aug	Sep	Oct	Nov	Total
of whom were displaced in Area C	1006	815	7	43	140	805	160	24	17	171	156	42	0	98	122	67	102	959
of whom were displaced in East Jerusalem	88	71	34	18	0	298	23	34	28	8	8	0	0	20	15	30	34	200
Area A	NA	NA	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	П	16	5	0	0	32
Area B	NA	NA	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	6	0	0	0	6
Grand Total	1094	886	41	61	140	1103	183	58	45	179	164	42	П	140	142	97	136	1197

Truckloads of goods entering Gaza from Israel¹⁸

Truckloads entering Gaza from Israel



Source: Palestinian Ministry of National Economy, Gaza

Strategic Response Plan(SRP) 2014:

as of 18 December 2014

		SRP 2014								
	Cluster	Total request in USD	% of funds received							
À	Coordination and Support Services	21,193,179	104.1%							
\square	Education	47,903,132	14.5%							
	Food Security	537,357,004	37.9%							
***************************************	Health and Nutrition	38,580,097	49.2%							
\	Protection	57,243,771	40.7%							
	Shelter/Non-Food Items	163,734,700	7.3%							
=	Water, Sanitation and Hygiene	62,818,396	17.5%							
	Total	928,830,279	46.4%							

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

MONTHLY INDICATOR NOTES AND CLARIFICATIONS

Casualties

- 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 (e.g. 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.