



## Overview- Key Issues

### Healthcare workers intensify West Bank industrial action

Palestinian Authority (PA) health care workers announced the escalation of strike action in the West Bank on 21 March. The intensification of industrial action, which first began on 16 February, followed the inability of the PA to comply with a previous agreement to pay 25% of overdue staff salaries over a period of four months. An earlier strike lasted for more than three months, between September and December 2006.

The latest wave of action has seen all primary healthcare services cease and emergency rooms closed to all but life-or-death emergencies. Monitoring by the WHO in Primary Healthcare Clinics (PHC) and ten hospitals in the West Bank across eight governorates revealed an alarming situation in health care provision.

WHO confirmed that immunisation programmes have all but stopped in most governorates and the dispensing of drugs to chronic patients, except for insulin, kidney medications and psychotropic medications, had also ceased in the majority of the surveyed PHC.

In hospitals, elective surgeries had stopped and outpatient clinics had closed with only ICU and lifesaving treatments, such as dialysis and oncology services, emergency deliveries and critical cases admitted in most hospital emergency rooms. Staff attendance was reported as low across the surveyed PHC and hospitals (see the Health section for more details on the impact of the industrial action).

### Beit Lahia sewage crisis: long term solution remains in doubt

Effluent from an emergency filtration basin at the wastewater treatment plant in Beit Lahia (Gaza Strip) flooded the nearby Bedouin village of Um Al Nasser on 27 March, home to 700 families (5,000 inhabitants, including 600 school children) killing five people and injuring 25 others.<sup>1</sup> More than 2,000 displaced residents are being sheltered in a nearby temporary camp established by UNRWA.

While local authorities and humanitarian agencies responded quickly to the emergency humanitarian situation amid fears over the outbreak of disease, a continuing concern is the risk of further flooding. With the construction of a new plant two years behind schedule mitigation steps were undertaken to try to reduce the level of wastewater in the main lake and to reinforce the banks of the existing basins.

The site of the future plant in East Jabalia is close to the Green Line and in 2006 the area was shelled regularly by the IDF following continuing homemade rocket fire originating from that area. Doubts over funding, the uncertain political climate and Israel's stringent closure policy have also hampered progress.<sup>2</sup> However, according to reports, authorities in the Gaza Strip have now doubled construction shifts at the new plant.

The original treatment plant, built in 1976, was designed to serve a population of 50,000 which has now soared to 190,000 and rising. Effluent first began overflowing from the original filtration basins more than a decade ago and a large lake of waste water now covers more than 44 hectares. In 2004, UN agencies warned that flooding was inevitable if immediate action was not taken and a new treatment plant constructed (see Health section for more details of response to the crisis).

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## West Bank drugs banned from East Jerusalem hospitals

A ban announced by Israel's Ministry of Health (MoH) on medications and supplies manufactured and/or stored in the West Bank from being transported to East Jerusalem hospitals is expected to have a negative impact on NGOs, patients and medical institutions.<sup>3</sup> The ban, which affects drugs procured/donated by NGOs such as Care International, was imposed reportedly for reasons of quality control by the Israeli MoH. Medicines and consumables have been supplied from the West Bank to East Jerusalem hospitals since 1995 without inspection (as the Israeli MoH ceased to do so because of the high costs involved) or any recorded cases of faulty medicine.

According to the Coordinator of the East Jerusalem hospitals Network, Dr. Tawfiq Nasser, the new ban will have a significant impact on the functioning of hospitals as donated supplies and medications are essential to their ability to provide services during difficult economic conditions. The ban will mean that hospitals and donors will be forced to procure medications from the Israeli market at a significantly higher cost.

## Olive industry under threat in Salfit governorate

Olive farmers in Salfit governorate are struggling to access and tend their land ahead of the harvest season due to closures and rising poverty, FAO has reported. The olive harvest is considered a vital and subsidiary source of income for more than 10,000 poor and vulnerable families in Salfit, particularly in the wake of Israel's closure policy, the loss of jobs in Israel and during the PA's ongoing financial crisis.

At a time when farmers should be ploughing, cultivating, weeding and controlling pests in their olive groves ahead of the harvest season, land owners are finding it increasingly hard to access their land and meet costs of production. Olive groves, covering about 80% of Salfit's cultivated area, are under threat from the 23 Israeli settlements, outposts and industrial areas controlling almost 12% of the total governorate area. Since the start of second intifada, an estimated 20,000 olive trees have been destroyed.

In particular, the ongoing construction of the Barrier around and within the governorate will result in major losses to the olive sector. Of Salfit's 20,500 ha of land, almost half or 10,000 ha will be cut off by the Barrier.

## Palestinian journalists boycott PA over abduction of BBC journalist

Palestinian journalists held strikes and boycotted coverage of government activities following the suspected abduction of the BBC's Gaza reporter Alan Johnston. Their action was aimed at putting pressure on the Palestinian authorities to do more to secure his release. All but a handful of international journalists have withdrawn from the Gaza Strip following the kidnapping of Mr. Johnston from Gaza City by gunmen on 12 March. Many Palestinians feel the abduction has prevented reports about the worsening humanitarian situation within the Gaza Strip from reaching the wider world. No one has so far claimed responsibility for the abduction.

The following UN Agencies, local and international NGOs and organisations participate in sector working groups/provide information to the Humanitarian Monitor: United Nations Children's Fund (UNICEF), United Nations Development Program (UNDP), 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 Program (WFP), World Health Organization (WHO), Al Haq, Badil, Save the Children (UK), Defence of Children International – Palestine Section (DCI-PS), Oxfam GB, Palestine Hydrology Group (PHG) and members of the Temporary International Mechanism. (TIM).



## Overview—Regional Focus

### West Bank including East Jerusalem

#### **Increase in search and arrest campaigns in the northern West Bank:**

An increasing number of IDF search and arrest campaigns in Palestinian towns and villages in the northern West Bank have been reported in the first three months of 2007. In 2005<sup>4</sup>, the monthly average number of Israeli operations across the six northern governorates (Jenin, Tulkarm, Nablus, Tubas, Qalqiliya and Salfit) was 86. This average increased by more than half in 2006, and continued to rise in the first three months of 2007 (206 and 265 respectively). The IDF are frequently entering densely populated Palestinian areas in the evening (in some areas almost nightly) to conduct these campaigns and search for 'wanted' Palestinians. These operations are associated with a heavy presence of IDF soldiers and military vehicles followed often by house-to-house searches during which residents are forced either to leave their houses or are held in one room.

#### **Demolitions inside the 'closed areas' in the northern West Bank:**

During March, the IDF demolished five Palestinian structures inside the 'closed areas' (the area between the Barrier and the Green Line) in the northern West Bank. The demolished structures, including animal pens and shops were demolished in Alfe Menashe (Qalqiliya) and Barta'a (Jenin) closed areas for reportedly being built without permits in 'Area C' (Area C as designated under the Oslo Accords remained under full Israeli security and civil responsibility and covers approximately 60% of the West Bank). Palestinians need a building permit issued by the Israeli Civil Administration before beginning construction which can take long periods of time and in most cases is never granted. More demolition orders have been issued for Palestinian structures inside the closed areas indicating that further demolitions are likely. In total eight Palestinian structures were demolished in the West Bank in March compared to 54 in February.

#### **'Al Rajabi Building (House of Peace)' – a new settlement in H2 area of Hebron?**

On 19 March, more than 200 Israeli religious students from nearby Israeli settlements around Hebron city occupied a 3,500 m<sup>2</sup> building in the H2 area of the city, and called it the 'House of Peace'. The building is designed to contain more than 40 apartments and 15 shops. The building is situated in the Waad Al Hussein valley mid way between Ibrahimi Mosque area of the old city of Hebron and the large Kiryat Arba Israeli settlement. At least 70 Palestinian families (420 people) living in the valley are directly affected by the establishment of this new settlement. The current occupation of the building also strengthens the

Israeli settler control over the Waad Al Hussein valley, including a nearby mosque and Muslim cemetery. While the debate over the legality of this new settlement is ongoing in Israeli circles, tens of IDF soldiers and Israeli Border police have been stationed in the area to protect the settlers. Palestinian residents fear that additional permanent checkpoints or closures will be established to protect the settlers if they remain, similar to the ones in other parts of H2, and vehicle access will be denied.

### Gaza Strip

#### **Erez crossing remains closed for over one year to Palestinian workers**

12 March 2007 marked one year since the Israeli authorities prohibited Palestinian workers with valid permits from accessing Israel's labour markets through Erez crossing. The IDF initially imposed a comprehensive closure on the oPt on 12 March 2006, which coincided with the Jewish feast of Purim, but this ban has remained in place since this time for workers from the Gaza Strip (limited numbers of Palestinian traders from the Gaza Strip were able to re-enter Israel from mid-September 2006). In the weeks prior to 12 March 2006, a daily average of 2,900 workers and traders (supporting approximately 22,000 family members) had been crossing. Erez crossing is the only access point for Palestinian workers and traders.



## Protection of Civilians

"All activities aimed at ensuring full respect for the rights of the individuals in accordance with international human rights law, international humanitarian law and refugee law."<sup>5</sup>

### Protection of civilians analysis

A quarterly analysis of the first three months of 2007 compared to the same period in 2006 shows that Palestinian deaths related to the ongoing conflict with Israel have significantly declined (33 in 2007 compared to 72 in 2006). The decline is due to reduced casualties in the Gaza Strip as Palestinian deaths in the West Bank have continued at comparable levels.

During March, a total of 153 Palestinians were injured throughout the oPt, the vast majority (141) in the West Bank in particular in Ramallah and Jerusalem governorates. Palestinian injuries in the West Bank declined significantly compared to the record high levels observed in the previous month (251).

Palestinian casualties as a result of internal violence in the Gaza Strip declined significantly in March (16) compared to the previous month (47). An additional 103 Palestinians were injured in internal violence in March, including two Palestinians in the West Bank.

### Accountability

#### International Women's Day 2007: ending impunity for violence against women and girls

The theme for 2007 highlights the need to end impunity for the global phenomenon of violence against women and girls:

- From the beginning of 2006 to the end of February 2007, Israeli forces have killed an estimated 36 Palestinian women<sup>6</sup>. In many cases no investigations were carried out in line with international standards.
- Approximately 117<sup>7</sup> Palestinian women (12 of them minors) are held in Israeli prisons. The presence of predominantly male soldiers and guards exacerbates female prisoners' sense of vulnerability, particularly when held in isolation.
- The relative absence of the rule of law in the Gaza Strip in particular resulted in the killing of an estimated 43<sup>8</sup> Palestinian women in internal violence between January 2006 and the end of February 2007.

- Statistics indicate an increase<sup>10</sup> in domestic violence, including physical, psychological, and sexual violence. From the beginning of 2006 to the end of February 2007, an estimated 23 women have been killed in so-called "honour" killings, compared with 14 women killed in 2005. Steps must be taken to end impunity for these crimes through revisions to the penal code and proper investigations to bring the perpetrators to justice.

#### Recent Human Rights Council resolution on fact-finding missions in the region

At its Fourth Session, the UN Human Rights Council (HRC) adopted a resolution recalling the two Special Session resolutions (S-1/1 of 6 July 2006 and S-3/1 of 15 November 2006) relating, inter alia, to sending urgent fact-finding missions to the region, the latter in relation to the Israeli military operation in Beit Hanoun in November 2006. The resolution noted with regret that "Israel, the occupying Power, has not implemented to date these two resolutions and hindered the dispatching of the urgent fact-finding missions ..." and called for the above resolutions to be implemented. Progress will be reported to the next session of the HRC.



## Protection of Civilians

	Total 2005 (monthly average)	Total 2006 (monthly average)	Apr- 06	May- 06	Jun- 06	Jul- 06	Aug- 06	Sep- 06	Oct- 06	Nov- 06	Dec- 06	Jan- 07	Feb - 07	Mar- 07
Number of Palestinian deaths - direct conflict <sup>1</sup>														
West Bank	215 (18)	678 (57)	8	21	4	17	16	7	12	17	12	8	11	7
Gaza Strip			23	17	35	164	61	24	48	121	3	3	2	2
Israel			1	0	2	0	0	0	1	0	0	1	0	0
Number of Palestinian injuries - direct conflict														
West Bank	1253 (104)	3199 (267)	179	227	114	209	120	112	86	159	51	89	251	141
Gaza Strip			75	30	84	590	146	84	94	332	22	15	5	12
Number of Israeli deaths - direct conflict														
oPt	47 (4)	25 (2)	0	0	1	3	1	1	0	1	0	0	1	0
Israel			6	1	2	0	0	0	0	2	0	3	0	0
Number of Israeli injuries - direct conflict														
oPt	484 (40)	377 (31)	17	14	11	31	9	19	16	19	10	10	35	15
Israel			61	0	15	10	1	5	3	11	2	2	0	0
Number of Palestinian deaths - internal violence <sup>2</sup>														
West Bank	11 (>1)	146 (12)	0	2	2	0	1	0	5	1	4	2	0	0
Gaza Strip			0	13	8	13	11	13	27	14	25	54	47	16
Number of Palestinian injuries - internal violence														
West Bank	131 (11)	871 (76)	0	0	0	0	0	0	29	1	45	12	5	2
Gaza Strip			35	53	72	43	55	73	257	35	130	249	213	101
IDF search and arrest campaigns <sup>3</sup>														
West Bank	1878 (jun-dec) (268)	5666 (472)	513	360	462	602	474	619	471	580	610	431	540	634
Gaza Strip	15 (jun-dec) (2)	8 (>1)	0	0	0	1	2	4	0	1	0	0	0	0
Number of Palestinians detained/arrested by Israel														
West Bank	2293 (jun-dec) (328)	5244 (437)	571	400	406	549	346	362	325	530	506	483	621	605
Gaza Strip	75 (jun-dec) (10)	187 (16)	4	0	2	28	31	48	0	13	3	11	17	77
Number of administrative detentions – Being investigated by Protection Sector.														

For more information please contact OHCHR, (02) 2965534 or OCHA, (02) 582 9962 (Cate Osborn or Mai Yassin)



# Child Protection

“Child protection includes strategies and activities aimed at the protection of children under 18 against abuse, exploitation and violence”<sup>11</sup>

This section's indicators are used to monitor the UN Security Council Resolution 1612, adopted on 26 July 2005 and referring to the protection of children in armed conflicts. Children are defined as less than 18 years of age.

	Total 2005 (monthly average)	Total 2006 (monthly average)	Apr-06	May-06	Jun-06	Jul-06	Aug-06	Sep-06	Oct-06	Nov-06	Dec-06	Jan-07	Feb-07	Mar-07
Number of Palestinian children killed - direct conflict <sup>4</sup>														
West Bank	33 (3)	127 (11)	3	0	0	4	1	1	1	5	2	3	0	1
Gaza Strip			3	1	5	38	12	9	5	23	1	1	1	0
Number of Palestinian children injured - direct conflict <sup>5</sup>														
West Bank	134 (11)	472 (31)	24	21	26	78	48	27	20	58	18	12	26	11
Gaza Strip			17	5	19	20	15	1	2	8	2	1	0	2
Number of Israeli children killed - direct conflict <sup>6</sup>														
oPt	3 (>1)	1 (>1)	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Israel	2 (>1)	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Number of Israeli children injured - direct conflict <sup>7</sup>														
oPt	4	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Israel	0	7 (>1)	0	0	0	2	0	1	0	2	2	0	0	0
Number of Palestinian children killed - indirect conflict <sup>8</sup>														
West Bank	5 (>1)	2 (>1)	0	0	0	0	0	1	0	1	0	0	0	0
Gaza Strip	2 (>1)	6 (>1)	0	1	0	1	2	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Number of Palestinian children killed in Palestinian internal violence <sup>9</sup>														
West Bank	0	2 (>1)	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	2	0	0	0
Gaza Strip	0	10 (>1)	0	0	0	2	1	0	3	1	3	10	4	3
Number of Palestinian children held in detention by Israeli authorities <sup>10</sup>														
West Bank	n/a	n/a	371	377	359	335	391	389	348	340	380	382	398	384

For more information, please contact UNICEF, (02) 583 0013 (Anne Grandjean).

In March, five Palestinian children were killed in the oPt, including four in the Gaza Strip. Three children in the Gaza Strip were killed during armed internal clashes (factional fighting and inter-family confrontations), including a two-year-old, and a fourth was killed from explosion in his house (not shown in the table). A 16 year-old boy was killed in Jenin by live ammunition fired by the IDF in response to stone throwing.

Twenty-three children were injured, among which 13 were injured by the IDF or Israeli settlers in the West Bank (Nablus, Hebron, Salfit and Tubas) and another boy was seriously injured by a UXO (not shown in the table) in Nablus city. In the Gaza Strip, two children were injured by the IDF and the remaining were either injured while Improvised Explosive Devices (IED) were being handled

in their homes (six), or during internal fighting (three).

The demolition of Palestinian homes continues, with significantly negative consequences for children. In March, the Israeli military demolished eight structures in the West Bank, including two inhabited residences, by which 13 people were displaced, including seven children.

Thirteen students from al Arrub Refugee Camp were arrested on their way to school, two of whom were detained for two days (For the impact of the conflict on access to education, please see the Education sector). According to Defence for Children International, 384 Palestinian children are currently held in Israeli detention.





# Violence and Private Property

"The civilian population and individual civilians shall enjoy general protection against dangers arising from military operations...The civilian population as such, as well as individual civilians, shall not be the object of attacks. Acts or threats of violence, the primary purpose of which is to spread terror among the civilian population are prohibited."<sup>12</sup>

	Total 2005 (monthly average)	Total 2006 (monthly average)	Apr- 06	May- 06	Jun -06	Jul -06	Aug -06	Sept -06	Oct -06	Nov -06	Dec -06	Jan -07	Feb -07	Mar- 07
<b>Incidents involving Israeli settlers<sup>11</sup></b>														
Total number of incidents	n/a	234 (20)	25	21	22	18	14	13	19	31	17	10	20	15
Leading to Palestinian casualties	n/a	64 (5)	3	6	7	6	4	5	1	8	2	2	4	7
Leading to Israeli casualties	n/a	28 (2)	2	2	2	4	3	1	3	2	2	1	3	2
Leading to international casualties	n/a	11 (1)	2	1	0	1	1	0	2	2	0	0	0	1
<b>Number of Palestinian home-made rockets fired into/towards Israel<sup>12</sup></b>														
From the Gaza Strip	1 194 (100)	1 786 (149)	152	132	230	309	70	73	72	283	73	46	79	73
<b>Number of IDF artillery shells</b>														
Into the Gaza Strip	509 (42)	14 111 (1175)	4 830	2 435	645	3 986	842	561	113	248	0	0	0	0
<b>Number of IAF air strikes</b>														
In the Gaza Strip	n/a	573 (48)	36	14	34	235	42	26	38	93	0	1	0	0
<b>Physical structures demolished - West Bank<sup>13</sup></b>														
Structures demolished	n/a	201	3	32	19	3	7	4	0	35	4	18	54	8
Of which residential (occupied)	n/a	56 (5)	2	1	7	1	4	1	0	14	3	14	22	2
<b>Physical structures demolished - Gaza Strip</b>														
Structures demolished	n/a	246 (21)	3	0	9	36	94	41	24	38	0	0	0	0
Of which homes demolished	n/a	127 (11)	0	0	0	20	29	27	18	32	0	0	0	0

For more information, please contact OCHA, (02) 582 9962 (Cate Osborn or Mai Yassin)

## Incidents involving settlers:

The number of reported incidents involving Israeli settlers throughout the West Bank declined in March compared to February. There were 15 incidents in total, ten of which resulted in casualties. The total includes the killing of a Palestinian man who was found stabbed to death near Itamar settlement in Nablus governorate. The circumstances surrounding the incident remain unclear and the Israeli Police are investigating. Eleven people were injured in nine separate incidents: Eight Palestinians, including two children and a woman; two Israeli settlers and a foreign national. Most of the Palestinians injuries resulted from physical assaults by settlers or settlement private security guards, on individuals walking near to or working on land close to settlements. One Palestinian was run over by a car driven by Israeli settler near Gush Etzion

settlement in Hebron. Both Israeli casualties were caused in separate incidents by Palestinians shooting at their vehicles. The foreign national was working with the Temporary International Presence in Hebron (TIPH), and required hospital treatment after being hit in the face by a large stone thrown by a settler from Beit Hadassa settlement.

There were three incidents of prevented access for Palestinians, two of which concerned the access routes to the evacuated settlement of Khomesh in Nablus, where settlers returned for a three-day protest this month. One incident of damage to land was recorded when the Israeli settlement of Bitar Illit opened its sewage flow onto Palestinian lands in the village of Wadi Fukin in Bethlehem..



## Access

"Everyone has the right of freedom of movement and residence within the borders of each State. Everyone has the right to leave any country, including his own, and to return to his country."<sup>13</sup>

	Monthly average 2005	Monthly average 2006	Apr-06	May-06	Jun-06	Jul-06	Aug-06	Sep-06	Oct-06	Nov-06	Dec-06	Jan-07	Feb-07	Mar-07
<b>IDF Physical obstacles in the West Bank<sup>14</sup></b>														
Manned	62	74	66	71	76	77	79	83	83	84	82	82	84	83
Unmanned	410	445	438	448	450	463	468	435	459	456	445	446	466	464
Total	472	518	504	519	526	540	547	518	542	540	527	528	550	547
Random or 'Flying' checkpoints observed	189	589	699	506	567	909	649	606	443	573	662	455	624	816
<b>Curfews imposed by IDF<sup>15</sup></b>														
No. Incidents - West Bank	9	4	7	9	3	6	2	1	1	2	2	2	3	4
Total hours under curfew - West Bank	126	54	58	119	26	30	6	14	3	156	26	28	91	21
No. Incidents - Gaza Strip	0	0	0	0	0	1	0	0	0	1	0	0	0	0
Total hours under curfew - Gaza Strip	0	18	0	0	0	72	0	0	0	144	0	0	0	0
<b>Access incidents reported by humanitarian organisations<sup>16</sup></b>														
Access incidents reported in the West Bank	n/a	79	94	150	51	63	101	66	62	79	38	38	n/a	28
Average reported time to exit the Gaza Strip via Erez, in minutes.	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	53	47	81	44
<b>Ambulances incidents in the West Bank and access for medical referrals from the Gaza Strip to West Bank and Israel<sup>17</sup></b>														
Ambulance access delays reported at West Bank checkpoints	n/a	10	18	9	14	20	10	11	7	2	n/a	15	26	11
Ambulance access denial reported at West Bank checkpoints	n/a	9	3	44	21	10	2	5	9	4	n/a	16	25	9
MoH medical referral requests (via Erez)	n/a	459	274	453	474	185	292	438	379	509	434	508	595	n/a
Actual no. of medical referrals crossing (via Erez)	n/a	416	235	404	400	171	266	402	344	455	399	452	540	n/a
<b>Access for Palestinians to East Jerusalem and Israel from oPt<sup>18</sup></b>														
West Bank (total closure days)	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	1	7	20	4	11	4	0	0	5
Gaza Strip (total closure days)	n/a	17	30	31	30	31	31	11	0	0	1	0	0	0
<b>Movement of people from/to Gaza Strip - daily average<sup>19</sup></b>														
Workers to Israel - Erez	1029	378	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Traders to Israel - Erez	107	42	0	0	0	0	0	4	28	93	172	243	290	352
Rafah - daily crossing out	n/a	423	621	578	608	0	396	117	250	144	289	138	240	410
Rafah daily crossing in	n/a	424	621	553	630	167	149	151	220	161	199	270	139	309

For more information, please contact OCHA, (02) 582 9962 (Gwyn Lewis)



59% Completed

0 km  
source: OCHA, April 2007

**The West Bank Barrier**

712km





## Access

“Everyone lawfully within the territory of a State shall, within that territory, have the right to liberty of movement and freedom to choose his residence.”<sup>14</sup>

	Monthly average 2005	Monthly average 2006	Apr-06	May-06	Jun-06	Jul-06	Aug-06	Sep-06	Oct-06	Nov-06	Dec-06	Jan-07	Feb-07	Mar-07
<b>Functioning of the Gaza Strips crossing points - percentage of days open/scheduled days open<sup>20</sup></b>														
Rafah crossing	n/a	57%	100%	100%	77%	6%	16%	10%	23%	20%	32%	26%	25%	48%
Karni crossing	n/a	71%	56%	96%	73%	58%	41%	96%	96%	92%	96%	100%	100%	96%
Sufa crossing	n/a	60%	80%	74%	54%	0%	30%	71%	87%	77%	92%	100%	100%	29%
Nahal Oz energy pipelines	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	81%	77%	100%	88%	100%	88%	88%	100%	100%	96%
<b>Movement of goods through Karni crossing - daily average<sup>21</sup></b>														
Karni import - commercial truckloads incl. humanitarian supplies	n/a	156	141	273	165	90	79	197	189	191	197	220	232	218
Karni export - commercial truckloads incl. humanitarian supplies	n/a	17	5	9	13	0	1	15	19	31	40	46	52	44
<b>Other imports into the Gaza Strip - total<sup>22</sup></b>														
Sufa import - aggregates (construction materials) truckloads	3 527	1 598	2359	2803	1720	0	0	1374	2178	1652	2422	3455	3257	1034
Nahal Oz import - Fuel truckloads	n/a	583	423	482	644	628	620	557	493	548	532	539	714	601
Economic/access data for the West Bank are being investigated by OCHA														

For more information, please contact OCHA, (02) 582 9962 (Gwyn Lewis).

## West Bank

In March 2007, the number of physical obstacles remained high throughout the West Bank at 547 compared to 505 for the same period in 2006. In addition, the number of random or 'flying' checkpoints set up by the IDF to further control Palestinian movement reported in the West Bank has risen by approximately 10% compared to the previous month.<sup>15</sup>

## Gaza Strip

An improvement was reported in the functioning of Rafah crossing on the Egyptian border, which was open for about 50% of the scheduled days compared to 25% in February. An estimated 12,706 people crossed out of and 9,574 crossed into the Gaza Strip during the month. On 8 March, the death of an elderly Palestinian man and the injury of nine others were reported when more than 5,000 people converged at Rafah crossing when it reopened on that day.

Karni was open on 96% of its scheduled days, but is still operating for fewer than its scheduled operating hours for all the days. The daily average number of truckloads of exported and imported goods decreased in March compared to February, from 52 to 44 (exports), and from 232 in February to 218 in March (imports).



## Socio-economic Conditions

“Everyone has the right to work, to free choice of employment, to just and favourable conditions of work and to protection against unemployment”<sup>16</sup>

### Anecdotal evidence of deteriorating socio-economic conditions in the West Bank provided by UNRWA

Destitute families in the southern West Bank reported how they are now relying on funerals within their communities for the meat, which is traditionally distributed by the families of the deceased, as a way of coping with the shortfall of protein in their diet.

UNRWA social hardship cases (SHC) reported being approached by non-refugees in the community, asking for donations of small quantities of sugar. UNRWA distribution workers also reported seeing women trying to collect the few grams of sugar left at the bottom of the distribution buckets.

Community solidarity towards poorer neighbours is manifesting itself in the illegal provision of electricity, according to reports.

The rapid decline in economic conditions prevents some formerly well-off families to complete their house construction projects and attempts to sell unfinished structures at below market value are reported. It is also becoming more common for extended family members to move in together and share living costs.

Refugees with disabilities and their family members are struggling to cope with the cost of buying diapers and maintain standards of basic hygiene. UNRWA social workers report increasing requests for support from elderly and sick refugees, whose family members have either lost their jobs or recently became unable to support them.

Shop keepers are becoming increasingly reluctant to provide goods on credit or charity. Increasing feelings of depression and humiliation are reported by people who are forced to ask for support, especially when their state of need is made known or when requests for support are publicly refused.

Poor refugee women are becoming more likely to take on short term or seasonal work such as cleaners.

Refugee farmers increasingly report losses due to the poor access to agricultural markets. There are cases of

farmers deeming it unproductive to harvest their grapes and preferring instead to sell them afterwards as feed for goats. Nonetheless, farmers continue investing what they can in unproductive businesses in order to avoid Israeli claims on uncultivated land, which they fear may be subject to easy confiscation.

Widespread poverty and difficult conditions negatively impact children. An increase is noticed in the number of children selling items on the street and scavenging in garbage bins. Also cases of small theft by children and youth are increasing. Smoking habits are highly spreading among very young boys.

#### Case study:

Alia and Najwa live in Beit Ummar (Hebron), and are both registered as UNRWA SHCs. They reported that the invitation to a funeral by wealthier families often provides them with the opportunity to source meat for their families in the traditional form of a donation. Alia says that she recently received one kilo of meat as charity from a funeral. Last month, Najwa said she received no charity meat last month and could only cook lentils for her children. She also resorted to asking the butcher for any chicken remains that he was discarding.



## Socio-economic Conditions

	Q1 1997	Q1 1998	Q1 1999	Q1 2000	Q1 2001	Q1 2002	Q1 2003	Q1 2004	Q1 2005	Q1 2006	Q2 2006	Q3 2006	Q4 2006
<b>Unemployment rate - relaxed definition - % - PCBS<sup>23</sup></b>													
West Bank	28.3%	23.5%	22.9%	16.9%	32.5%	35.0%	40.3%	31.0%	28.8%	27.2%	24.2%	25.3%	23.4%
Gaza Strip	32.6%	30.7%	27.9%	21.8%	48.8%	46.4%	37.3%	35.1%	38.0%	39.6%	38.7%	41.8%	39.6%
oPt	30.0%	26.0%	24.7%	20.2%	37.7%	38.7%	39.3%	32.3%	31.7%	31.1%	28.6%	30.3%	28.4%
<b>Households in poverty - based on consumption - % - PCBS<sup>24</sup></b>													
Poor	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	27.7%	38.8%	29.1%	36.9%	n/a	n/a
Deep poor	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	16.8%	23.8%	18.1%	25.9%	n/a	n/a
<b>Number of Palestinians employed in Israel and in the settlements - PCBS<sup>25</sup></b>													
West Bank	59970	74213	107067	105501	105501	57000	43281	49750	65255	59846	57683	69478	68100
Gaza Strip	17619	21899	25758	25380	2580	2000	6295	5849	0	852	0	0	0
oPt	77589	96112	132825	130881	107630	59000	49576	55,99	65255	60698	57683	69478	68100
<b>Economic dependency ratio - PCBS<sup>26</sup></b>													
West Bank	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	5.7	6	6.6	5.7	5.6	5.4	5	4.9	4.6
Gaza Strip	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	9.1	8.8	7.5	7.5	8.2	8.4	8.3	8.7	7.9
oPt	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	6.6	6.8	6.9	6.3	6.3	6.2	5.8	5.9	5.5
<b>Evolution of consumer price index (CPI) - PCBS<sup>27</sup></b>													
West Bank	n/a	6.4%	10.9%	19.9%	24.8%	26.0%	32.0%	39.7%	44.2%	49.2%	54.3%	54.7%	55.3%
Gaza Strip	n/a	7.5%	12.6%	21.9%	24.7%	22.8%	23.2%	26.4%	32.0%	33.8%	38.1%	40.0%	41.5%
oPt	n/a	11.3%	11.3%	20.7%	23.9%	24.2%	28.4%	36.2%	41.4%	46.1%	51.0%	52.1%	53.1%
<b>Evolution of daily wages in NIS - PCBS<sup>28</sup></b>													
West Bank		50.3	57.9	63.9	61.5	60	57.7	60	62.8	60	70	69.2	69.2
Gaza Strip		39.25	45	49.9	48.2	60	50	50	50	55.8	65.4	67.3	65.4
oPt		50	53.9	56.9	54.8	55	53.85	55.6	57.7	57.7	69.2	69.2	69.2

For more information, please contact UNRWA, (02) 589 0500 (Elena Mancusi)

### Dependency on PA employment increased: 152.000 PA employees in oPt

Represents:

22.8% of the employed people in oPt

16% of the employed people in the West Bank

41.5% of the employed people in the Gaza Strip

8.3% of the oPt labour force in the Gaza Strip

(PCBS Labour Force Survey 2006)

### PCBS Poverty Consumption-based Yearly Figures

	West Bank	Gaza Strip	oPt
<b>1998</b>	<b>14.5%</b>	<b>33%</b>	<b>20.3%</b>
<b>2001</b>	<b>16.2%</b>	<b>41.9%</b>	<b>23.6%</b>
<b>2003</b>	<b>30.9%</b>	<b>44.7%</b>	<b>35.5%</b>
<b>2004</b>	<b>19.8%</b>	<b>37.2%</b>	<b>25.6%</b>
<b>2005</b>	<b>22.3%</b>	<b>43.7%</b>	<b>29.5%</b>
<b>2006 (Q2)</b>	<b>n/a</b>	<b>n/a</b>	<b>36.9%</b>

Poverty has increased among PA employees in the last year. According to the University of Geneva Public Perceptions Polls, poverty increased among PA employees from 37% in July 2005 to 46% in May 2006.



## Health

"Health is a state of complete physical, mental and social well-being and not merely the absence of disease or infirmity."<sup>17</sup>

### Health care strike

Since 12 March, WHO monitored the situation of health services provision in ten hospitals in the West Bank and found that hospital care has been seriously undermined:

- A doctor in each emergency room examines each case and admits only top emergencies and Dr. Khaleel Suleiman Hospital in Jenin and the New Jericho Hospital in Jericho are referring emergency cases to other hospitals.
- All hospitals reported that the number of patients seeking health care services in governmental hospitals has decreased dramatically. Hospital directors commented that patients during the strike are not attempting to access services unless in cases of extreme emergencies.
- The director of Al Watani Hospital also highlighted that statistical reports of Al- Ittihad Hospital and the Specialized Arab Hospital (non-governmental hospitals) showed a sharp increase in their activity levels during March.
- Abu Al Hasan Al Qasam Hospital in Yatta (Hebron) reported that the number of emergency visits, deliveries and inpatient admissions dropped by 56%, 25% and 46%, respectively in March 2007 as compared to February 2007.
- Similarly, the number of emergency visits, outpatient visits and surgical operations in Ramallah Governmental Hospital dropped by 42%, 100% (for outpatient visits since outpatient

In response to the strike, WHO, UNICEF and UNFPA issued a press release on 28 March to express their serious concern about the deterioration in access to medical services in the oPt as a result of the ongoing strike. The UN agencies reiterated their concern that the withdrawal of vital medical services will further exacerbate the already difficult humanitarian situation affecting Palestinian lives and their right access of health services. The press release called on the parties concerned to reach an agreement guaranteeing essential medical care in accordance with international ethical standards and the international community to support the Palestinian public health sector in this critical case.

### Beit Lahia sewage crisis

The Palestinian Ministry of Health (MoH) declared a state of emergency in the Gaza strip and an operation room was activated and four PHC clinics located in proximity of the affected area operated on a 24 hour basis. Additional medical points providing basic services were also put in place in the area.

- WHO main concerns were the risk of the spread of communicable diseases and the need for a surveillance system, health education, immunization, disinfection of the affected area, testing water quality as well as psychosocial support to the victims:
- WHO has supported the MoH in strengthening epidemiological surveillance system in the affected community for early detection of outbreak and distributing case definitions and line listing forms for the early detection of epidemic prone and vector borne diseases among the different health providers in the area.
- WHO has assisted the MoH in producing health education brochures to be distributed among the residents of the northern area of the Gaza Strip.
- WHO and UNRWA have provided technical support to the MoH in defining the appropriate vaccines and the appropriate age group to be vaccinated.
- WHO prepared a matrix of the disinfection process requirements and their related costs in coordination with the MoH and conducted a follow up meeting with UNRWA that will provide assistance in this matter.
- Finally, WHO is following up on issues related to water quality and psychosocial interventions and providing assistance, as needed.



## Health

“A positive mental health is a state of emotional and social well-being in which the individual realises his or her own abilities, can cope with the normal stresses of life, can work productively or fruitfully, and is able to make a contribution to his or her community.”<sup>18</sup>

	Apr -06	May -06	Jun -06	Jul -06	Aug -06	Sept -06	Oct -06	Nov -06	Dec -06	Jan -07	Feb -07	Mar -07
Number of primary health care consultations by service provider <sup>29</sup>												
MoH - West Bank	204 547	211 261	169 464	174 891	130 782	36 441	39 979	39 294	143 242	173 742	n/a	n/a
UNRWA - West Bank	129 933	151 734	132 060	139 061	148 319	160 351	133 568	166 495	168 816	155 727	150 728	n/a
NGOs - West Bank	63138	66035	62571	61192	63381	74176	68444	75459	87469	n/a	n/a	n/a
MoH - Gaza Strip	232 798	213 050	212 181	241 321	247 785	221 157	199 119	198 606	198 023	207 953	207215	n/a
UNRWA - Gaza Strip	269 136	308 459	284 446	322 397	317 911	314 370	277 173	307 015	285 569	326 234	304 836	n/a
NGOs - Gaza Strip	17 244	15 458	15 618	17 353	17 390	17 083	14 416	16 397	14 633	17 552	18 592	n/a
Proportion of deliveries by service provider <sup>30</sup>												
MoH - West Bank	52.9%	49.7%	56.6%	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a
MoH - Gaza Strip	68.9%	70.54%	71.51%	73.9%	69.5%	69.85%	n/a	73.0%	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a
NGOs - West Bank	28.4%	16.1%	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a
NGOs - Gaza Strip	14.3%	14.0%	13.94%	13.20%	14.20%	16.64%	n/a	16.5%	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a
Private hospitals and clinics - West Bank	15.4%	31.5%	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a
Private hospitals and clinics - Gaza Strip	16.5%	15.11%	14.11%	12.60%	15.90%	13.16%	n/a	9.9%	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a
Home - West Bank	3.3%	2.7%	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a
Home - Gaza Strip	0.24%	0.18%	0.32%	0.2%	0.25%	0.2%	n/a	0.25%	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a
UNRWA - Gaza Strip	0.06%	0.15%	0.12%	0.1%	0.15%	0.06%	n/a	0.40%	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a
Pharmaceutical items out of stock (416 drugs and 596 consumables) <sup>31</sup>												
Drugs - West Bank	23%	26%	27%	24%	22%	25.7%	24%	19.7%	19.7%	n/a	19.7%	n/a
Consumables - West Bank	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	23%	n/a	n/a	n/a
Drugs - Gaza Strip	18%	20%	19%	17%	14%	18.9%	21%	16.8%	16.8%	14.7%	17.8%	24%
Consumables - Gaza Strip (at zero level)	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	8.7%	9.4%	10.9%	13.6%	n/a	9.7%	25.5%	n/a
Consumable - Gaza Strip (at less than three months)	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	33.7%	39.7%	39.4%	17.3%	24.2%	13.4%	23.3%	n/a
Malnutrition among children 9 - 12 months <sup>32</sup>												
Underweight - West Bank	3.3%	3.7%	4.2%	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a
Anemia - West Bank	47%	51%	49.4%	49.9%	50.6%	45.3%	48.1%	48.1%	44.6%	50.5%	n/a	n/a
Underweight - Gaza Strip	n/a	n/a	4.47%	5.15%	5.64%	4.77%	5.47%	5%	n/a	2.9%	n/a	n/a
Anemia - Gaza Strip	68.9%	59.4%	68.9%	67.9%	70.5%	73%	70.6%	66.7%	66.73%	67.8%	67.54%	n/a
Number of consultation for diarrhoea in refugee children 0-3 years at UNRWA clinics <sup>33</sup>												
West Bank	667	889	1 246	887	1 119	809	861	966	867	786	793	n/a
Gaza Strip	860	1 390	2 235	1 868	1 667	1 322	1 454	1 389	1 314	1 025	942	n/a
Number of new cases (adults) attending UNRWA community and hospital mental health services <sup>34</sup>												
West Bank	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	134	132	34	n/a
Gaza Strip	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	35	27	58	n/a
Total oPt	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a
MoH - Total oPt	2 324	2 356	2 131	2 447	1 754	1 163	750	1 260	169	159	92	n/a
Number of cases referred to specialised therapy - UNRWA <sup>35</sup>												
West Bank	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	7	3	n/a
Gaza Strip	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	3	0	n/a

For more information please contact WHO, (08) 282 2033 (Dr. Silvia Pivetta)



## Food Security & Agriculture

“Food security exists when all people, at all times, have access to sufficient, safe and nutritious food to meet their dietary needs and lead an active and healthy life.”<sup>19</sup>

While the food security situation has remained stable, overall this month two additional factors should be considered which are affecting key population groups. In the Gaza Strip, the deterioration in physical security is threatening the economic and food security situation as people restricted their movement to avoid being caught in inter-factional clashes (this affects sectors such as restaurants, cafes and taxis). Whereas in the West Bank, 'Area C' populations faced increased movement restrictions during March which are particularly affecting the livelihoods of Bedouin communities and small farmers.

### Monthly monitoring of basic commodities and food security

#### Availability of basic commodities

##### Gaza Strip

WFP found that all basic food commodities were available in the market in the Gaza Strip. Wheat flour prices remain high due to the increase of wheat prices on the international market. There was a slight decline in the price of sugar, also primarily linked to the international market. There was no fluctuation in the price of vegetables. The price of chicken remains the same (between 10 and 11 NIS/Kg). The price of fresh meat has decreased from 32 NIS /kg to at 30 NIS for 1 kg due to seasonality and limited purchasing power of customers. The price of animal feed remained stable during the last month.

The fishing catch in March 2007 was 248 tonnes, compared to 143 tonnes for the same month last year. The price of fish decreased from 14 to 11 NIS/kg this month in the Gaza Strip. According to MoA/fishing department the increase is due to the use of “Jarafah nets” used by fishermen to compensate for the fishing restrictions. These illegally fine nets catch young and spawning fish, close to the shore which are of low monetary value. Furthermore, this practice is detrimental to the food chain and growth of the spawning fish population and it will, over time, jeopardize vulnerable inshore habitats that are key for the reproduction and nursery of many fish and invertebrate species.

The total volume of basic food commodities imported into the Gaza Strip decreased by 10 percent compared to February 2007 and the volume of cereals (wheat flour and rice) imported dropped by 25%.

##### West Bank

WFP market survey in West Bank shows that all basic food commodities are available in the market and there was no significant change in the prices.

Implications of non-payment of regular PA salaries

The non-regular payment of salaries for PA employees continues to affect the economic situation and caused a 40% drop in the sale of basic commodities in both urban and rural areas in March. People are purchasing food in smaller quantities and are relying on the most basic items only. The number of people purchasing food on credit remains significantly higher than a year ago (March 2006).

##### Anecdotal evidence from the Gaza Strip gathered by WFP:

- Restaurants and hotels are suffering from fewer customers as even those people who have money are afraid to go out.
- Taxi drivers are affected as people (especially PA staff) are now walking to work/ university.
- Students living further from their University are reducing the number of days of their attendance to save money.
- Parents are reducing their children's pocket money
- Shops are not buying in seasonal goods as there is no guarantee of selling them - cheap quality and prices
- People are buying seasonal fresh food to save money – no fruit as expensive imported.
- People are making more food at home – baking at home instead of buying and are drying seasonal vegetables to preserve them.
- Households are reducing electricity consumption.
- Food aid is more valued – essential in every household – cash is unfeasible
- No jobs except job creation projects – no development plans.
- People cannot afford medical services, clinics crowded. Children aren't eating a healthy diet.
- Big families have approached food aid providers looking for food coupons – impacting the security situation.





## Food security

	Benchmark	Monthly average 2006	May-06	Jun-06	Jul-06	Aug-06	Sep-06	Oct-06	Nov-06	Dec-06	Jan - 07	Feb-07	Mar-07
<b>Retail price of basic food commodities - West Bank, in NIS<sup>40</sup></b>													
Wheat flour 50 kg		<b>91.0</b>	90	90	88.9	90	87.9	88.6	95.7	95	96.4	96.4	97.2
Olive oil l Kg		<b>18.6</b>	18	19	19	20	20.4	19	16.3	15	17.5	17.5	16.7
Rice l kg		<b>3.6</b>	3.1	3.1	3.6	3.6	3.7	3.7	3.7	3.7	4.	4	3.9
Veg. oil l kg		<b>5.5</b>	5.5	5.7	5.1	5.3	5.6	5.6	5.6	5.6	5.8	5.8	5.8
Chickpeas l kg		<b>4.8</b>	5.4	5.4	4.2	4.2	4.8	4.7	4.3	4.3	4.6	4.6	5.3
Refined sugar l kg		<b>3.7</b>	3.9	4	3.6	3.6	3.5	3.4	3.7	3.7	3.5	3.5	3.3
Milk powder l kg		<b>23.2</b>	23	23.5	23.5	23.5	23.5	24.2	23.2	23.2	23.7	23.7	24.1
Basket of 7 items		<b>150.5</b>	148.9	150.7	147.9	150.2	149.4	149.2	152.5	150.5	155.5	155.5	156.3
<b>Price of basic food commodities - Gaza Strip, in NIS<sup>41</sup></b>													
Wheat flour 50 kg		<b>82.9</b>	81.1	74.8	82.3	79.5	81	83.3	88.5	86.6	86	86.5	83.4
Olive oil l Kg		<b>23.1</b>	21.6	21.4	22.6	23.7	23.2	24.8	24.1	24.1	25	24.4	22.5
Rice l kg		<b>3.3</b>	3.3	3.3	3	3.2	3.3	3.2	3.2	3.2	3.3	3.4	3.3
Veg. oil l kg		<b>5.5</b>	5.2	5.7	5.2	5.4	5.3	5.8	5.8	5.8	6.1	6.3	5.8
Chickpeas l kg		<b>5.3</b>	5.6	5.8	5.4	5.2	5.2	5	4.6	4.6	5.5	5.6	5.5
Refined sugar l kg		<b>4.2</b>	5.5	3.7	4	3.2	3.7	6.6	3.6	3.6	3.8	3.6	3.3
Milk powder l kg		<b>33.4</b>	30.1	29.7	29.6	47	n/a	33.8	34.5	35.7	34.8	35.8	31.7
Basket of 7 items		<b>157.1</b>	152.4	144.4	152.1	167.2	n/a	162.5	164.3	163.5	164.5	165.4	155.5
<b>Availability of basic commodities - Gaza Strip<sup>42</sup> (against benchmark of quantities needed per day)</b>													
Wheat - mT	<b>450 mt/day/pop</b>	-	n/a	7 502	5 689	n/a	n/a	n/a	7 960	11 870	11 700	10 865	8400
Wheat - days	-	-	n/a	17	13	n/a	n/a	n/a	11	26	26	24	19
Sugar - mT	<b>111 mt/day/pop</b>	-	n/a	205	840	n/a	n/a	n/a	1 505	1 560	1 750	1 995	2045
Sugar - days	-	-	n/a	2	8	n/a	n/a	n/a	14	14	16	11	18
Rice - mT	<b>72 mt/day/pop</b>	-	n/a	1 350	1 315	n/a	n/a	n/a	1 385	1 495	1 535	1 655	1725
Rice - days	-	-	n/a	19	18	n/a	n/a	n/a	19	21	21	23	24
Veg. oil - mT	<b>44 mt/day/pop</b>	-	n/a	800	810	n/a	n/a	n/a	1 065	1 105	1 050	1 240	1220
Veg. oil - days	-	-	n/a	19	19	n/a	n/a	n/a	65	26	24	29	28
<b>Quantities of food imported in the Gaza Strip - metric tonnes<sup>43</sup></b>													
Wheat - mT	<b>450 mt/day/pop</b>	-	8 321	4 460	9 128	n/a	n/a	5 686	7 517	10 159	3 348	7 244	6208
Rice	<b>72 mt/day/pop</b>	-	1 521	144	1 998	182	n/a	5	450	600	1 474	2 032	757
Veg. oil	<b>44 mt/day/pop</b>	-	1 137	661	1 229	323	n/a	n/a	631	618	754	268	1848
Sugar	<b>111 mt/day/pop</b>	-	1 184	1 121	4 996	763	n/a	75	808	1 057	2 669	2 471	2034
Veg. and fruits	-	-	2 663	2 117	3 508	n/a	n/a	438	438	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a
Commodities	-	-	390	300	274	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a
Total	-	-	15 216	8 803	21 133	n/a	n/a	n/a	9 844	12 434	8 263	12 015	10847
<b>Fishing catch in the Gaza Strip<sup>44</sup></b>													
<b>Total</b>													
mT	<b>2,323 (in 2005)</b>	<b>1604.2</b>	243.0	291.0	0.0	101.0	203.2	158.6	130.0	0.0	46	120.97	247.8

For more information please contact FAO, (02) 532 1950 (Rana Hannoun or Azzam Saleh) or WFP, (02) 540 1340 (Salah Lahham)



## Agriculture

	Total oPt 2006	Apr-06	May-06	Jun-06	Jul-06	Aug-06	Sep-06	Oct-06	Nov-06	Dec-06	Jan-07	Feb-07	Mar-07
<b>Arable land requisitioned, levelled and reclaimed in dunums - West Bank<sup>36</sup></b>													
Requisitioned	5 811	26	12	1 483	25	253	121	0	1 328	385	20	221	152
Levelled	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	110	216	105
People affected	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	190	497	210
Reclaimed	3 654	n/a	167	338	265	n/a	846	666	662	620	50	50	200
<b>Arable land requisitioned levelled or reclaimed in dunums - Gaza Strip</b>													
Requisitioned	6 516	n/a	n/a	n/a	3 666	n/a	900	850	1 100	0	0	0	0
Levelled	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	0	0	0
People affected	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	0	0	0
Reclaimed	1 635	n/a	n/a	n/a	0	n/a	530	500	365	240	105	126	0
<b>Greenhouses land destroyed and rehabilitated in dunums - West Bank<sup>37</sup></b>													
Destroyed	20	n/a	0	0	0	n/a	5	15	0	0	0	0	10
People affected	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	0	0	56
Rehabilitated	453	n/a	100	145	24	n/a	46	25	5	108	13	0	0
<b>Greenhouses land destroyed and rehabilitated in dunums - Gaza Strip</b>													
Destroyed	614	n/a	n/a	n/a	179	n/a	270	130	35	0	0	0	0
People affected	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	0	0	0
Rehabilitated	40	n/a	n/a	n/a	0	n/a	20	20	0	0	0	0	0
<b>Number of trees destroyed<sup>38</sup></b>													
Trees destroyed in the West Bank	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	340	600	150
People affected	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	70	140	35
Trees destroyed in the Gaza Strip	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	0	0	0
People affected	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	0	0	0
<b>Agricultural produce trading in/out the Gaza Strip - metric tonnes<sup>39</sup></b>													
Import	83 884	n/a	2 663	2 177	3 509	743	n/a	27 048	23 576	24 168	43 276	15 738	15 501
Export	3 342	n/a	509	481	0	0	n/a	345	2 007	n/a	14 192	5 096	5 188

For more information please contact FAO, (02) 532 1950 (Rana Hannoun or Azzam Saleh)



## Water & Sanitation

“The Human Right to Water entitles everyone to sufficient, safe, acceptable, physically accessible and affordable water for personal and domestic uses”<sup>20</sup>

	Baseline Pre-Intifada	Average 2006	Aug 06	Sep 06	Oct 06	Nov 06	Dec 06	Jan 07	Feb 07	Mar 07
<b>West Bank per capita use of water per day - in litres<sup>45</sup></b>										
Minimum	-	20.3	23	21	18	24	21	16	18	20
Maximum	-	207.2	219	221	172	218	230	241	147	147
Average	90	65.3	67	68	63	66	63	61	50	52
<b>Gaza Strip - Per capita use of water per day - in litres<sup>46</sup></b>										
Minimum	-	37.0	38	36	36	36	38	36	18	18
Maximum	-	116.5	125	119	118	107	113	107	71	71
Average	95	80.5	84	81	80	77	80	76	51	49
<b>Price of tankered water in the West Bank in NIS<sup>47</sup></b>										
Minimum	-	7.3	4	8	8	8	8	8	5	5
Maximum	-	22.5	26	21	21	21	21	17	17	21
Average	11.4	14.0	13	14	14	14	14	13	13	13
<b>Price of tankered water in the Gaza Strip in NIS<sup>48</sup></b>										
Minimum	-	35	n/a	n/a	n/a	35	n/a	35	35	35
Maximum	-	35	n/a	n/a	n/a	35	n/a	35	35	35
Average	-	35	n/a	n/a	n/a	35	n/a	35	35	35
<b>Percentage of HH connected to water network paying the bills<sup>49</sup></b>										
West Bank	-	35.5%	38.0%	35.0%	35.0%	35.0%	35.0%	36%	35%	37.7
Gaza Strip	-	4.2%	5.0%	4.0%	5.0%	4.0%	4.0%	3%	2%	1.5
<b>Percentage of HH monthly income spent on sanitation services<sup>50</sup></b>										
West Bank	-	2.2%	3.0%	2.0%	2.0%	2.0%	2.0%	2%	3%	3.0
Gaza Strip	-	4%	4.0%	4.0%	4.0%	4.0%	4.0%	4%	4%	4.2
<b>Cost recovery of water bills by village councils and Municipalities in the West Bank<sup>51</sup></b>										
Minimum	-	0%	n/a	n/a	n/a	0.0%	n/a	0%	n/a	n/a
Maximum	-	16.7%	n/a	n/a	n/a	100.0%	n/a	100%	n/a	n/a
Average	75.0%	13.5%	n/a	n/a	34.0%	47.0%	n/a	47%	n/a	n/a
<b>Cost recovery of water bills by village councils and Municipalities in the Gaza Strip<sup>52</sup></b>										
Minimum	-	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	0%	n/a	n/a
Maximum	-	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	0%	n/a	n/a
Average	75.0%	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	0%	n/a	n/a

For more information please contact UNICEF, (02) 583 00 13/14 (Hubert Oribon) or PHG, (02) 296 63 15/6 (Eng. Basema Bashir)



## Education

“All children deserve a quality education founded on a rights-based approach and rooted in the concept of gender equality”<sup>21</sup>

	# of Schools	Apr 06	May 06	Jun 06	Jul 06	Aug 06	Sep 06	Oct 06	Nov 06	Dec 06	Jan 07	Feb 07	Mar 07
<b>Number of schools with at least one day of disruption - West Bank<sup>53</sup></b>													
Bethlehem	100	0	0	-	-	-	100	100	100	n/a	0	0	0
Hebron	207	0	3	-	-	-	207	207	207	n/a	0	72	0
South Hebron	159	-	-	-	-	-	159	159	159	n/a	0	0	0
Jenin	113	2	12	-	-	-	113	113	113	n/a	0	0	0
Jericho	20	0	2	-	-	-	20	20	20	n/a	2 (curfew)	1	0
Jerusalem	37	0	0	-	-	-	37	37	37	n/a	0	0	0
Jerusalem suburb	55	n/a	n/a	-	-	-	55	55	55	n/a	0	0	0
Nablus	196	29	1	-	-	-	196	196	196	n/a	0	0	2
Qabatyia	103	n/a	n/a	-	-	-	103	103	103	n/a	0	0	0
Qalqilia	67	0	0	-	-	-	67	67	67	n/a	0	0	0
Ramallah	159	0	0	-	-	-	159	159	159	n/a	0	0	2
Salfit	57	0	0	-	-	-	57	57	57	n/a	0	1	0
Tubas	-	0	0	-	-	-	-	-	-	n/a	0	0	n/a
Tulkarm	107	0	3	-	-	-	107	107	107	n/a	0	n/a	0
<b>Total West Bank</b>	<b>1,380</b>	<b>2.2%</b>	<b>1.5%</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>100.0%</b>	<b>100.0%</b>	<b>100.0%</b>	<b>n/a</b>	<b>0.14%</b>	<b>5.4%</b>	<b>-</b>
<b>Number of schools with at least one day of disruption - Gaza Strip<sup>54</sup></b>													
Gaza	151	0	0	-	-	-	151	0	0	n/a	0	n/a	0
Gaza North	60	0	0	-	-	-	60	0	0	n/a	0	n/a	0
Khan Younis	64	4	0	-	-	-	64	0	0	n/a	0	n/a	0
Middle Area	37	0	0	-	-	-	37	0	0	n/a	0	n/a	0
Rafah	34	0	0	-	-	-	34	0	34	n/a	0	n/a	0
<b>Total Gaza Strip</b>	<b>346</b>	<b>1.2%</b>	<b>0.0%</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>100.0%</b>	<b>0.0%</b>	<b>9.8%</b>	<b>n/a</b>	<b>0.0%</b>	<b>n/a</b>	<b>0.0%</b>

For more information please contact UNICEF, (02) 583 0013 (Shao Potung) and UNESCO, (02) 295 9740 (Megumi Watanabe).

Significant deterioration of the security situation in the Gaza Strip over the last month. Security forces seem unable/unwilling to provide the necessary protection to UN agencies and the international presence is now reduced to five staff. One international from UNICEF has been temporarily relocated to Jerusalem. This caused greater difficulties for the overall humanitarian project implementation in the Gaza Strip.

Attacks on educational facilities rose this month. The Israeli military welded shut the doors of two kindergartens, affecting approximately 340 children, some of whom are orphans. 13 students from al Arrub Refugee Camp in Hebron governorate were arrested on their way to school, two of whom were detained for two days. Further in Hebron, the Israeli military entered the Idhna Elementary School for Girls in Idhna town, firing tear gas canisters which resulted in several cases of suffocation and injury.

The PA has now agreed to resume regular monthly salary payments to all employees; however, the unpaid salaries of 2006 have not yet been paid. Because of this, the threatening to return to strike among the teachers continues to exist. The negative impact of the long term strike of 2006 continues to affect the morale of the teaching staff in the government schools.



# The Institutional Response to the Crisis

## Humanitarian and development assistance to the oPt

FUNDED in \$ million	The UN and the CAP	ICRC	INGOs	PNGOss	ECHO	Other EC Commitment	USAID
2005	193.3	30.6	n/a	n/a	35	241	386
2006	287	34.5	n/a	n/a	104.4	225	176
2007	65.9	57.4 (appeal)	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	24.4

Source: Relief web, ICRC, ECHO, USAID websites.

## The CAP

In \$ million	CAP 2006 - revised May 2006			CAP 2007			CAP 07 % Funded
Sector	Requirements in \$ million	Number of Projects	Level of funding as of 30 Dec 06	Requirements in \$ million	Number of Projects	Funding	
Agriculture	36.9	11	4%	11.3	14	-	-
Coordination and support services	10.3	5	63%	14.2	7	0.4	3.0
Job creation and Cash assistance	154.3	14	53%	198.1	17	12.1	6.0
Education	8.3	4	48%	9.1	4	-	-
Food	96.4	7	100% +	149.7	8	32.5	2.2
Health & Psychosocial	53.8	31	47%	35.7	30	2.0	6.0
Protection	-	-	-	1.7	4	-	-
Water and Sanitation	23.5	20	27%	33.9	19	-	-
Sector not yet specified	0	-	-	-	-	18.9	-
<b>Total</b>	<b>383.6</b>	<b>92</b>	<b>677%</b>	<b>453.6</b>	<b>103</b>	<b>65.9</b>	<b>15 %</b>

Source: OCHA, Financial Tracking System (FTS).

## The PA operating budget

\$ million	2005		2006				
	\$ million	%	Q1	Q2	Q3	Q4	Total
Clearance revenues collected by Gol	757	32	137	1	97.	38	274
Domestic revenues	476	20	99	70	55	66	290
External finance for budgetary support	346	15	154	110	305	178	747
Other sources, incl. Palestinian Investment Fund Assets	413	18	70	-22	29	23	100
Net Lending	344	15	-68	n/a	154	n/a	68
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>2 339</b>	<b>100</b>	<b>529</b>	<b>159</b>	<b>486</b>	<b>305</b>	<b>1479</b>

Source: reports from World Bank, International Monetary Fund, Temporary International Mechanism, UN Agencies.



## Temporary International Mechanism (TIM)

\$ million	2006				
	Q1	Q2	Q3	Q4	Total
<b>TIM window 1/ ESSP - pledges</b>	-	-	-	46.60	46.60
<b>TIM window 2</b>	-	-	1.40	4.51	5.91
<b>TIM window 3</b>	-	-	21.80	115.80	137.60

Source: reports from World Bank, International Monetary Fund, Temporary International Mechanism, UN Agencies.

## TIM Window II

### 1) Emergency Fuel Supply

Sector	Number of facilities	Fuel received in Litres as of 30 March 2007
Hospitals and Health Centers	45	1351441
Water System	103	2054177
Waste Water System	75	827158
General Power Generators	6	685605
Um Nasir Disaster Relief	30	10000
<b>Total</b>	<b>259</b>	<b>4928381</b>
<b>Total Cost in US\$ million as of 30 March 2007</b>	<b>4.7</b>	

### 2) Support For Electricity production and distribution

	Cost in US\$ million as of 30 March 2007	Fuel received in Litres as of 30 March 2007
<b>Gaza Power Plant</b>	<b>26.7</b>	<b>38000000</b>
<b>Electricity Production Gaza</b>	<b>7.4</b>	
<b>Electricity Distribution Gaza</b>	<b>4.7</b>	
<b>Electricity Distribution West Bank</b>	<b>4.7</b>	
<b>Total Cost in US\$ million as of 30 March 2007</b>	<b>43.5</b>	

## TIM Window III

Type	Num of Beneficiaries	Num of Allowances	Total Amount Recieved in US\$ as of March 2007
<b>Health Workers</b>	<b>12000</b>	<b>8</b>	<b>39</b>
<b>Low-income public service providers and pensioners</b>	<b>65000</b>	<b>6</b>	<b>129</b>
<b>Social Hardship Cases Scheme for the Poor</b>	<b>75000</b>	<b>3</b>	<b>40</b>

Source: Temporary International Mechanism

### 3) Access to Quality Healthcare

	Facilities
East Jerusalem hospitals referral costs	5
<b>Total Cost in US\$ million as of 30 March 2007</b>	<b>4.7</b>

## Number of social hardship cases receiving their monthly allowance from the MoSA<sup>23</sup>

	Jan-06	Feb - June 06	Jul-06	Aug-06	Sep-06	Oct-06	Nov-06	Dec-06	Jan 07	Feb 07	Mar-07
West Bank	19 406	0	19 818	0	17 798	0	0	n/a	0	0	0
Gaza Strip	17 779	0	20 474	0	17 283	0	0	n/a	0	0	0
<b>oPt</b>	<b>37 185</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>40 292</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>35 081</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>73 000<sup>24</sup></b>	<b>0</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>0</b>

Source: MOSA collected by WFP





## Sources and Rationale

Three factors have contributed to a worsening of the humanitarian situation in the oPt: (1) a lack of protection of civilians and increasing violence; (2) increased restrictions on movement; and (3) the financial and institutional crisis of the PA following the election of the Hamas movement in the Palestinian Legislative Council (PLC) in January 2006.

OCHA has been monitoring and reporting monthly on protection and access concerns in the oPt since 2002. However, following a sharp deterioration in the humanitarian situation in 2006, UN agencies and NGOs participating in the 2006 Consolidated Appeal Process (CAP) have produced this monthly report monitoring developments and key humanitarian indicators in the following sectors: protection, child protection, socio-economic conditions, health including psychosocial support, food security, agriculture, education and water and sanitation. This report also includes information related to movement restrictions and humanitarian access including monitoring the 2002 Bertini Commitments.

The present Humanitarian Monitor uses UN Security Council resolutions, the Universal Declaration of Human Rights and international humanitarian law (IHL), the Agreement on Movement and Access (AMA) as the standard for monitoring protection and access indicators. Sectors have also set out guiding humanitarian principles as the baseline for monitoring and developed indicators that can capture the humanitarian situation in a protracted crisis like the oPt.

The Humanitarian Monitor uses a combination of measurable humanitarian indicators, verified field observations and reports on the socio-economic and humanitarian situation in the oPt to analyse the humanitarian situation. These methods can provide different accounts of the situation. The humanitarian indicators reveal longer-term changes and trends from one month to another. Field observations illustrate signs of strain that may indicate future changes in the situation more generally. Reports provide information on specific topics or give larger overviews on the situation in the oPt.

### The following working sector groups and organisations contribute to the Humanitarian Monitor:

Sector	Sector Lead	Participants
Protection	OHCHR/OCHA	OCHA, WHO, UNRWA, UNIFEM, Badil, Save the Children-UK, Al Haqx
Job Creation and Cash Assistance	UNRWA	UNFPA, UN-HABITAT, WFP, CHFI, Mercy Corps
Health	WHO	UNICEF, UNFPA, UNRWA
Psychosocial & Protection Against Violence	United Nations Children's Fund (UNICEF)	UNICEF, UNIFEM, UNFPA, WHO, UNRWA, DCI, Save the Children-UK, Save the Children (Sweden), MAP UK
Food	WFP	FAO, UNRWA, ACF-E, CARE, CHFI, CISP, CRS, GVC, ICRC, MC, OXFAM-GB
Agriculture	FAO	ACF-E, PHG, ACP, ACAD, Allod Charitable Society
Education	UNICEF	UNESCO, OCHA, UNRWA, UNIFEM, OHCHR
Water and Sanitation	UNICEF	UNDP, UNRWA, WHO, UN-HABITAT, ICRC, PWA, PHG, OXFAM-GB, ACF-E, CARE, ACP, CMWU, WBWD.
Coordination and Security	United Nations Office for the Coordination of Humanitarian Affairs (OCHA),	OCHA, United Nations Special Coordinator for the Middle East Peace Process (UNSCO), UNDSS
Other sources and contributors		TIM, EUBAM, World Bank, IMF, AIDA, LACS, PNGO



# Table Definitions

## Protection of Civilians

1. Number of Palestinian and Israeli casualties (fatalities and injuries) - direct conflict. Source: OCHA. Casualties included within this figure relate directly to the conflict with Israel and the occupation of the oPt including in IDF military operations, artillery shelling, search and arrest campaigns, Barrier demonstrations, targeting killings, settler violence etc. The figures do not include events indirectly related to the conflict such as casualties from unexploded ordnance, etc. or events when the circumstances remain unclear or are in dispute. The figures include all reported casualties of all ages and both genders.
2. Number of Palestinian casualties - internal violence. Source: OCHA. Casualties included within this figure are caused by factional violence, family feuding, during internal demonstrations (that are linked to the conflict/occupation) and shooting of alleged collaborators with Israel. These incidents began to be comprehensively reported from May 2006 and earlier figures will be under-reported.
3. Number of search and arrest campaigns and arrests and detentions. Source: OCHA. These indicators refer to operations by the Israeli security forces to search houses or other properties throughout the oPt. Since Israel's unilateral disengagement from the Gaza Strip the vast majority of these operations occur in West Bank towns and villages. During these operations individuals are often detained or arrested. Detentions (without arrest) typically last for a few days but can last be extended up to a period of three months or longer.

## Child Protection

4. Number of Palestinian children killed - direct conflict. Source: OCHA. This indicator is used to monitor UN Security Council Resolution 1612, adopted on 26 July 2005 and relative to the protection of children in armed conflict. Children are killed in incidents related directly to the conflict and occupation of the oPt. These include casualties caused in IDF military operations, artillery shelling, search and arrest campaigns, demonstrations, targeted killing and Israeli settler violence.
5. Number of Palestinian children injured - direct conflict. This indicator is used to monitor UN Security Council Resolution 1612. Children are injured in incidents directly related to the conflict and occupation of the oPt. These include injuries caused in IDF military operations, artillery shelling, search and arrest campaigns, demonstrations, targeted killing and Israeli settler violence.
6. Number of Israeli children killed - direct conflict. Source: OCHA. This indicator is used to monitor UN Security Council Resolution 1612.
7. Number of Israeli children injured - direct conflict. Source: OCHA. This indicator is used to monitor UN Security Council Resolution 1612.
8. Number of Palestinian children killed - indirect conflict. These are children killed in incidents indirectly related to the conflict and occupation of the oPt such as in incidents involving unexploded ordnance (UXO), traffic incidents in the oPt with Israeli vehicles, Palestinian homemade rockets (qassams) missing their target, deaths in prison, deaths from probable underlying medical conditions that occurred during military operations or where access to medical care was denied.
9. Number of Palestinian children killed in Palestinian internal violence. Source: OCHA. This indicator is used to monitor UN Security Council Resolution 1612. Children are killed in incidents by factional violence or family feuding, internal demonstrations (that are linked to the conflict/occupation) and shooting of alleged collaborators with Israel. These incidents began to be comprehensively reported from May 2006: earlier figures will be underreported.
10. Number of Palestinian children held in detention by Israeli authorities. Source: Defence for Children International (DCI) from 1 January 2007. This indicator reflects the general level of tension in the West Bank. The UN Convention on the Rights of the Child states that deprivation of liberty of children should always be a last resort and for the shortest appropriate period.

## Violence & Private Property

11. Incidents involving Israeli settlers. Source: OCHA. This indicator shows the level of tension between Palestinians and Israeli settlers in the West Bank. An incident is any event involving an aggressive action perpetrated by either Israeli settlers or Palestinians towards each other or others in the community (such as international observers) and that may - but not necessarily - lead to a death or an injury. The aggressive action can be an incident involving a car, such as the stoning of a car or driving it in a dangerous manner; any type of harassment such as intimidation and physical threats, stoning people, chasing people etc. that do not cause any casualty; an incident related to property damage to a private house, land, livestock, etc; and any incident involving the entry into a private or prohibited property.
12. Number of Palestinian homemade (qassam) rockets, IDF artillery shells and IAF airstrikes in and from the Gaza Strip. Source: OCHA Gaza Field Office relying on secondary sources from UNRWA reporting and the Palestinian DCL. These indicators show trends and the level of conflict existing in the Gaza Strip.
13. Number of physical structures demolished in the West Bank and Gaza Strip. Source: OCHA. A structure is demolished when it is completely destroyed, damaged to such an extent that it will have to be demolished before rebuilding can commence, damaged beyond use and includes structures where the owner chose to demolish his structure which was under a demolition order issued by Israeli authorities. The majority of demolitions in the West Bank occur when the Israeli authorities demolish a structure for reportedly being built without a permit although some demolitions occur in other contexts such as during military incursions or due to the construction of the Barrier. In the Gaza Strip, demolitions usually occur during IAF air strikes or ground incursions. A residential (occupied) structure is any form of inhabited shelter/residence including seasonal shelters, during the time of the olive harvest for example.

## Access

14. IDF physical obstacles in the West Bank. Source: OCHA field monitoring. The movement of the Palestinians in the West Bank is restricted by a series of physical obstacles such as checkpoints, roadblocks, trenches, earthmounds, etc. that severely restrict Palestinians' freedom of movement. 'Flying' or random checkpoints further disrupt Palestinian movement as they are often deployed on key transit roads during morning and evening peak travelling times. Delays of more than one hour are regularly reported at flying checkpoints and their unpredictable nature means that Palestinians are unable to make travel plans.
15. Curfews imposed by IDF. Source: OCHA field monitoring. The duration of a curfew is counted once for each curfew incident. A single curfew affecting multiple neighbouring locations is counted as one incident. A curfew that is lifted and re-imposed in the same place on a single day is counted as two incidents. A single curfew incident may last for several days.
16. Access incidents reported by humanitarian organisations. Source: ACIS forms collected by OCHA and UNRWA Operations in the West Bank and Gaza Strip. The UN Security Council Resolution 1405 adopted in 2002 "emphasizes the urgency of access of medical and humanitarian organisations to the Palestinian civilian population." In addition, the Government of Israel committed to "fully facilitate the assistance activities of international organisations..." (Bertini Commitments, 2002). In discussions between UNSCO and the IDF it was agreed that internationals should not wait any longer than 20 minutes at Erez crossing.
17. Incidents of ambulances delays and denials in the West Bank and medical movement from the Gaza Strip. Source: Palestinian Red Crescent Society and WHO. Incidents reported by PRCS ambulance crews at IDF checkpoints throughout the West Bank. Only delays in excess of 30 minutes are reported. For medical movement, Palestinians from the Gaza Strip referred for medical treatment by the MoH in the West Bank, including East Jerusalem, and Israel must travel through Erez crossing while those seeking medical treatment abroad must cross through Rafah. Referral patients crossing Erez require a permit from the Israeli authorities.
18. External access to/from the oPt - closure days. Source: Ministry of Labour, closure reports, AMA bi-weekly reports and OCHA. These are the days when Palestinians from the West Bank cannot access East Jerusalem or Israel regardless of a valid permit. Normally (1) staff of international organisations, (2) medical staff, (3) humanitarian cases and (4) Palestinians with legal issues (needing to attend a court in Israel etc) are excluded from this comprehensive closure. In the Gaza Strip, these are days when Erez crossing is closed for all Palestinian access as reported in the bi-weekly AMA report.
19. Movement of people from/to the Gaza Strip - daily average. Source: OCHA Gaza Field Office; Palestinian Passport and Border Police; EU Border Assistance Mission (BAM). Erez is the only crossing point for Palestinian workers and traders to enter Israel from the Gaza Strip. The Rafah crossing is the Gaza Strip's only international crossing point with Egypt. It is operated by the PA under the supervision of the EU BAM. The Gol is remotely monitoring Rafah operations and can refuse people's passage. Rafah cannot operate if the EU BAM team are not present and EU BAM staff are dependent on Gol-operated Kerem Shalom crossing opening to access Rafah.
20. Functioning of the Gaza Strips crossing points - percentage of days open/scheduled days open. Source: AMA bi-weekly report. In terms of scheduled days open: (1) Karni is scheduled to be open six days per week; (2) Sufa is scheduled to open five days per week though at times opens on an additional day to allow the import of non-aggregates; and (3) Nahal Oz energy pipelines are scheduled to operate six days per week.
21. Movement of goods through Karni crossing - daily average. Source: AMA bi-weekly report. The daily average number of trucks is calculated on the basis of scheduled days open at Karni crossing point. Karni crossing is the main transit point for imports/exports into/from the Gaza Strip as well as humanitarian supplies. According to the 15 November 2005 Agreement on Access and Movement (AMA) signed between the Gol and PA, a minimum of 150 truckloads should be exported every day throughout 2006, to reach 400 per day by 31 December 2006.
22. Other imports into the Gaza Strip - total. Source: UNSCO. This indicator reflects the total number of truckloads of aggregates (through Sufa) and fuel (through Nahal Oz energy pipelines) into the Gaza Strip each month.



## Socio-economic Conditions

23. Unemployment rate – relaxed definition. Source: PCBS labour force surveys. In context of a protracted crisis, the standard unemployment definition might be somehow deficient, as a considerable number of people are simply no longer seeking employment. A “relaxed definition” of unemployment is applied here, by adding to the total number of unemployed people according to International Labour Organization (ILO) standards the number of people currently not engaged in active job search (commonly defined as “inactive”).
24. Households living on poverty – consumption based. Source: PCBS. The poverty line is the level of income below which one cannot afford to purchase all the resources one requires to live. The official Palestinian (relative) poverty line is based on the average consumption of essential goods (food, clothing, housing, housekeeping supplies, utensils and bedding, personal and health care, transportation and education) by a six-member family. For Q2 2006, PCBS estimates it at NIS 2,143 (\$477). The subsistence (absolute or deep) poverty line is calculated to reflect a budget for food, clothing and housing for a six-member family and stands at NIS 1,732 (\$385) in 2005 (PCBS). PCBS sample size does not allow disaggregating data for the Gaza Strip and West Bank.
25. The number of Palestinians employed in Israel and in the settlements. Source: PCBS labour force surveys. In 2000, around 146,000 Palestinians from the oPt were employed in Israel and Israeli settlements. This figure represents roughly 3% of the Palestinian labour force and demonstrates how vital for Palestinians’ livelihoods is the ability to have access to Israel for working opportunities.
26. Economic dependency ratio. Source: PCBS labour force surveys. No. of population divided by No. of employed. The higher the ratio, the more the inactive population is dependent on the active one.
27. Evolution of Consumer Price Index (CPI). Source: PCBS. Measures changes in prices of purchased goods and services at given time intervals, providing a measure of inflation. Source: PCBS, CPI press releases, quarterly and annually, available from 1996.
28. Evolution of daily wages. Source: PCBS labour force survey. Total net wages paid to all employees divided by total workdays in a given period (median value would be considered). To be looked at in conjunction with changes in CPI to determine purchasing power.

## Health

29. Number of primary health care consultations by service provider. Source: Primary Health Care (PHC) Directorates; Mother and Child Health Department, UNRWA Epidemiology Department. Compiled by WHO. The number of consultations by service provider indicates the availability of the Ministry of Health (MoH) and UNRWA (free) services, the availability of and recourse to alternative private paying services. It also shows how economical constraints may affect people’s choice to health services providers. Each monthly figure should be compared to the previous month and to that of the same month in the previous year(s). NGOs in the Gaza Strip include Palestinian Red Crescent Society (PRCS), Palestinian Medical Relief Society (PMRS) and Union of Health Workers Committees (UHCWC), which are the main non-governmental providers of health services.
30. Proportion of deliveries by service provider. Source: Birth certificates showed at PHC during BCG immunization, compiled by WHO. This indicator shows the public services’ capacity to provide obstetric services, as well as the burden on these services. It also indicates the availability of and recourse to alternative private paying services. It shows how financial barriers may affect people’s access choice to health services. Each monthly figure should be compared to that of the same month in the previous year(s).
31. Number of pharmaceutical items out of stock. Source: MoH Central Drugstore, compiled by WHO. Out of stock means ‘less than one month’s stock’. There are 416 drug items and 596 consumables that should always be available at central level in stock for more than three months to ensure an adequate response to pharmaceutical needs. This indicator shows the quality of care as well as the donors’ response.
32. Malnutrition among children 9-12 months in the Gaza Strip and 0-24 months in the West Bank. Source: On underweight in the Gaza Strip, data source is MoH newly developed national Nutrition Surveillance system in June 2006, where indicator is -2SD. On Anemia in the Gaza Strip, the same source has been used since June 2006, whilst MoH PHC directorate has been used as a source for the data on Anemia between January and May 2006. Although data on both sources is for children 9-12 months and collected during measles immunization, trend cannot be defined when using the data from the two systems, as the methodology of data collection substantially differs. However, this new data should be more reliable than the previous ones, showing a more accurate prevalence. In the West Bank, data from the new surveillance system is not available yet, and the 5th percentile has been used as cut off point instead of -2SD for the Underweight. Also, the limit of West Bank data is that they are clinic based and it may not give a representative picture for all the children 0-2 years. Underweight is the weight for age ratio which indicates acute malnutrition. Anemia is deficiency in Iron micronutrient, where the level of hemoglobin is less than 11 mg/l. Indicators of malnutrition are used as early warning for a humanitarian crisis generally linked to food intake, poor living conditions, poor water and sanitation conditions. These indicators allow monitoring the impact of the ongoing economic crisis.
33. Number of consultation for diarrhoea in refugee children between the ages of 0-3 years at UNRWA clinics. Source: UNRWA, Epidemiology Department, West Bank and Gaza Strip Field Offices. This indicator allows to follow up the environmental health status, the quality and effectiveness of environmental programmes. Monthly figures are compared to the corresponding month in the previous year in order to check for seasonal patterns of disease.
34. Number of new cases (adults) attending UNRWA community and hospital mental health services. Source: UNRWA, Epidemiology Department, West Bank and Gaza Strip Field Offices, compiled by UNICEF. This indicator shows how the crisis affects the psychological status of the Palestinians. It also indicates the quality of the Palestinians’ access to psychosocial care.
35. Number of cases referred to specialised therapy – UNRWA. Source: UNRWA, Epidemiology Department, West Bank and Gaza Strip Field Offices, compiled by UNICEF. This figure shows the number of people who need psychiatric treatment. These two indicators reflect the impact of the prolonged conflict on the mental health of the Palestinian population. According to international research, an average of one in four individuals suffers from a mental health problem at one point in their life. In the Palestinian context, this figure is exacerbated by years of continuous conflict. Closures, curfews, sporadic fighting, movement restrictions, targeted killings, arrests, humiliation, military incursions and poverty have a serious psychological impact on every individual, especially children and women. As a result, a majority of the population in the occupied Palestinian territory exhibits a degree of mental distress or illness.

## Agriculture

36. Arable land requisitioned, levelled or reclaimed in dunums - West Bank and Gaza Strip. Sources: Ministry of Agriculture, Palestinian Agriculture Relief Committees, compiled by FAO. Requisitioned land is public or private arable land either confiscated or made unavailable to Palestinian farmers by IDF for any reason (Barrier construction, settlements, roads, military areas, etc.). Levelled land is public or private land that has been deforested or devoid of inhabitation by the IDF (most often on the ground of security reasons). It however remains accessible to the farmers and be re-used as a field once the levelling is completed. People affected are those owners whose land has been requisitioned or levelled and therefore lost all or part of their livelihoods. People affected refers strictly to owners in this document although a wider range of people are actually affected such as workers employed and traders. Affected: workers, traders, retailers, etc. Reclaimed land is that land which is originally non-productive and is transformed in farming land under a private or NGO/UN-led initiative. This land is most of the time privately owned.
37. Greenhouses land destroyed and rehabilitated in dunums - West Bank and Gaza Strip. Sources: Ministry of Agriculture, Palestinian Agriculture Relief Committees, compiled by FAO. Destroyed refers to the total destruction of a greenhouse, i.e. the greenhouse itself and the land it is installed on. Rehabilitated refers to the reconstruction of greenhouses done by their owners or under NGO/UN financed projects. People affected are those owners whose greenhouse(s) has been destroyed and who therefore see their livelihoods affected.
38. Number of trees destroyed. Source: FAO; Ministry of Agriculture Directorates. Destroyed trees are those trees belonging to Palestinians that are being uprooted, burnt, or cut by Israeli authorities or settlers. Trees are mainly olive trees but can include any type of fruit-trees (orange, almond, avocado, etc.) and represent an important source of revenue for their owner. People affected are those directly affected by the loss of land or trees, i.e. the owner and its family although the number of people affected is actually far greater included extended family members and labourers.
39. Agricultural produce trading in/out Gaza Strip - the quantities of plant or animal produce, that are imported to or exported from Gaza (metric tonnes). Source: Ministry of Agriculture, Gaza Strip, Directorates of Agricultural Marketing

## Food Security

40. Retail price of basic food commodities – West Bank, in NIS. Source: WFP, Market Monitoring System. The VAM Market Price Survey is the primary means by which WFP collects commodity prices in the local markets. The prices are collected during the first week of each month from retail shops in all governorates of the oPt.
41. Retail price of basic food commodities – Gaza Strip, in NIS. Source: WFP, Market Monitoring System. The VAM Market Price Survey is the primary means by which WFP collects commodity prices in the local markets. The prices are collected during the first week of each month from retail shops in all governorates of the oPt.
42. 3) Availability of basic commodities - Gaza Strip. Source: Ministry of National Economy, collected by WFP. Basic commodities refers to commercial food only (humanitarian stocks excluded). The availability of each item is comparable to the estimated daily quantity of each item needed to cover the needs of the total population of the Gaza Strip.
43. 4) Quantities of food imported in the Gaza Strip. Source: Paltrade, collected by WFP. Basic commodities refers to commercial and humanitarian food being imported every month into the Gaza Strip. Each commodity is compared to the estimated need in that specific commodity.
44. 5) Fishing catch in the Gaza Strip. Source: Ministry of Agriculture, collected by WFP. Fish is the cheapest available animal protein source in the Gaza Strip. In addition, it contributes to the livelihoods of fishermen and their families. According to the Oslo Accords, the Palestinians are granted a fish catch area within 20 nautical miles off the Gazan coastline. The Golan agreed under the 2002 Bertini Commitments to a fishing zone of 12 nautical miles. Fishermen are presently able to fish up to 6 nautical miles off the Gaza Strip coastline except at a 1.5 and 1 nautical mile exclusion zone to the north and south respectively.



## Water & sanitation

45. Per capita use of water per day – in litres - West Bank. This is the average volume of water used per day per person (including domestic agriculture, domestic livestock and all loss).
46. Per capita use of water per day – in litres – Gaza Strip. This is the average volume of water used per day per person (including domestic agriculture, domestic livestock and all loss).
47. Price of tankered watered in the West Bank- in NIS (1 USD equals approximately 4.2 NIS). Prices are indicated in NIS to limit distortion due to frequent fluctuations of the exchange rate between the shekel and the dollar.
48. Price of tankered watered in the Gaza Strip - in NIS. (1 USD equals approximately 4.2 NIS). Prices are indicated in NIS to limit distortion due to frequent fluctuations of the exchange rate between the shekel and the dollar.
49. Percentage of HH connected to water network paying their bills.
50. Percentage of HH monthly income spent on sanitation services
51. Cost recovery of water bills by village councils and Municipalities in the West Bank
52. Cost recovery of water bills by village councils and Municipalities in the Gaza Strip.

## Education

53. Number of schools with at least one day of disruption – West Bank. Source: MoEHE, collected by UNICEF. This indicators shows access to education.
54. Number of schools with at least one day of disruption – Gaza Strip. Source: MoEHE. This indicator shows access to schools for students.

## End Notes:

1. Source: Palestinian Ministry of Health.
2. See OCHA, Humanitarian Situation Report # 3, 3 April 2007, available at [www.ochaopt.org](http://www.ochaopt.org).
3. Donors' meeting held at WHO premises in Jerusalem on 15 March, 2007
4. Data available for June to December 2005 only.
5. Inter Agency Standing Committee (IASC) Policy Framework
6. <http://www.pchrgaza.ps/index.htm>
7. Website: [http://www.addameer.org/index\\_eng.html](http://www.addameer.org/index_eng.html) and Website: <http://www.mandelainstitute.org/>
8. <http://www.pchrgaza.ps/index.htm>
9. See domestic violence survey Dec. 2005- Jan. 2006. Ramallah, PCBS, June 2006.
10. See "honor killing in Palestine", Palestinian Non- governmental organizations against domestic violence against women. 2007
11. UNICEF
12. Protocol I Addition to the Geneva Conventions, Article 51
13. Universal Declaration of Human Rights, Article 13
14. International Covenant on Civil Political Rights, Article 12(1)
15. The total number of flying checkpoints in the West Bank in March 2007 is 816 however this covers five weeks as OCHA collects these figures weekly. The average weekly total number in March 2007 is 163 compared to an average weekly total of 150 in February.
16. Universal Declaration of Human Rights, Article 23
17. WHO
18. WHO Constitution, 1948.
19. FAO/WHO/WFP
20. United Nations Committee on Economic, Social and Cultural Rights, General comment No. 15 (November 2002)
21. UNICEF
22. Geneva Convention, Article 50.
23. Number of Social Hardship cases receiving their monthly allowance from the MoSA: Source: Ministry of Social Affairs (MoSA); collected by WFP. Indicates the evolution of the poverty situation and what portion of the population needs social assistance; demonstrates the capacity of the MoSA to actually assist its poorest population. The number includes those social hardship cases who received an allowance through the Temporary International Mechanism (TIM)
24. Figure provided by the Temporary International Mechanism (TIM) team. It includes MoSA social hardship cases as well as WFP food for work and food for training beneficiaries. 73,000 people received a NIS1,000 allowance (\$222 with \$1 for NIS 4.5)
25. In August 2002, UN Secretary-General Kofi Annan appointed Ms Bertini as Special Envoy to address the humanitarian needs arising from the ongoing Israeli-Palestinian conflict since September 2000 and to assess the nature and scale of the humanitarian needs, and to clarify the respective responsibilities of all actors involved.
26. The AMA was signed on 15 November 2005 between the Government of Israel (Gol) and Palestinian Authority (PA) 'to facilitate the movement of goods and people within the Palestinian Territories...' and open '...an international crossing on the Gaza Egypt border that will put the Palestinians in control of the entry and exit of people' and thereby 'promote peaceful economic development and improve the humanitarian situation on the ground'.