



Overview- Key Issues

Update on Continued Closure of Gaza Crossings

Access and Crossings

Rafah and Karni crossings remain closed after more than three months. The movement of goods via Gaza border crossings significantly declined in September compared to previous months. The average of 106 truckloads per day that was recorded between 19 June and 13 September has dropped to approximately 50 truckloads per day since mid-September. Sufa crossing (usually opened 5 days a week) was closed for 16 days in September, including 8 days for Israeli holidays, while Kerem Shalom was open only 14 days throughout the month. The Israeli Civil Liaison Administration reported that the reduction of working hours was due to the Muslim holy month of Ramadan, Jewish holidays and more importantly attacks on the crossings by Palestinian militants from inside Gaza.

Impact of Closure

As a result of the increased restrictions on Gaza border crossings, an increasing number of food items – including fruits, fresh meat and fish, frozen meat, frozen vegetables, chicken, powdered milk, dairy products, beverages and cooking oil – are experiencing shortages on the local market. The World Food Programme (WFP) has also reported significant increases in the costs of these items, due to increases in prices on the global market as well as due to restrictions on goods going into Gaza. In September, the price of one kg of fresh meat increased by 25%, while the price of chicken experienced a 50% increase.

Palestinians' access to quality health care continues to be impacted by the closure. The only exit for Gazan patients referred for medical treatment outside the Gaza Strip is Erez checkpoint. During the last two weeks in September, 274 requests for permits to cross Erez, related to medical referrals, were submitted to the Israeli side. Of the 221 that were granted, only 192 actually crossed the checkpoint. This figure included patients and their accompanying companions. Additionally, WHO is concerned about a potential shortage of certain medical supplies. Currently, 61 drug items (13% of the essential drug list (EDL)) are out of stock and another 125 drug items (26% of the EDL) are at a stock rate of 2-3 months. *(For more information on the impact of the closure on the health sector, see Health sector section herein)*

Declaring Gaza a “Hostile Territory”

On 19 September, the Israeli government announced a series of proposed economic sanctions (including cutting power and fuel supplies to the Gaza Strip, and restricting operations at the Gaza crossings) in response to the continued indiscriminate firing of rockets and mortars by Palestinian militants. The Israel Electrical Company (IEC) provides over 60% of Gaza's power

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supply, paid for by deductions from overdue Palestinian tax revenues that Israel withholds. In addition, the Gaza Power Station is completely reliant on fuel supplies from Israel, which are paid for by the EU through the Temporary International Mechanism (TIM), for the generation of its power. If the IEC ceased production and the heavy fuel was withheld from entering Gaza through Nahal Oz, the available power for the Gaza population would be reduced by 91%. Since fuel reserves held at the plant are minimal, any interruptions by the Israeli government to the flow of diesel would affect the Gazan population in less than 48 hours. Power outages and water cuts would be more prolonged and sustained than they are now.

Further restricting operations at Gaza crossings would represent complete imprisonment of the Gazan population and would quickly manifest itself in shortages of supplies in Gaza's stores and supermarkets, not least because reserves and stocks are already minimal at this point. Commercial goods have represented 90% of the total quantity of products received since 19 June, with humanitarian assistance from international agencies accounting for less than 10%¹. Preventing the import of commercial goods would lead to further contraction of the Gaza economy, particularly in the food retail sector. The international agencies do not have the resources and capacity to bridge the gap in the event of a halt in the flow of commercial stocks.



Following the Israeli government's declaration, one of the main banks in Israel, Hapoalim Bank decided to cut ties with Palestinian banks in Gaza. It is reported that this decision might have serious economic and humanitarian implications which would further deteriorate the situation in the Gaza Strip, and have direct impacts on Palestinian trade and PA salaries.

Impact of the Health Workers' Strike in the Gaza Strip

On 17 September, the Palestinian local health unions called for a suspension of the health sector strike that had begun on 14 August. During the strike, WHO conducted field visits to the hospitals² to monitor the situation on the ground. While the number of admissions remained the same, the number of outpatient visits and surgical operations decreased in all the surveyed hospitals, except in Tal Sultan hospital. Provision of kidney dialyses services was not affected in terms of the number of sessions required for each patient; however, only one nurse was available to follow up the dialyses sessions for six patients during the strike, as compared to one nurse for two patients before the strike. The number of PHC consultations, the number of visits of chronic diseases patients and the number of antenatal care visits decreased in the four surveyed districts in Gaza³. Also, the number of family planning visits decreased in North Gaza and Gaza districts. *(For more details on the findings of WHO field visits to Gaza hospitals, see Health section herein).*

Increase in Fodder Prices and Decrease in Market Value of Sheep

Herders and livestock farmers in the oPt are currently facing a threat to their livelihood due to rapidly increasing costs for fodder and water-trucking. At the same time, their access to grazing land is being eroded; accessible range land has been reduced by closure, restrictions on land use, absence of land due to the presence of Israeli settlements, and isolation of land due to Barrier construction. The effect of these changes is that farmers are reducing flock sizes or are selling their flocks entirely, but prices of animals and meat are declining. *(For more details, see Food Security and Agriculture section herein).*

Bil'in Barrier Ruling

On 4 September, the Israeli High Court of Justice ordered the IDF to redraw, partially dismantle and rebuild the route of a 1.7 kilometer section in Bil'in village, Ramallah Governorate. Residents of Bil'in, together with international and Israeli activists, have been organizing weekly demonstrations to protest construction of the Barrier for nearly three years. The demonstrations were frequently marked by violent confrontations between the protesters (international, Palestinian and Israeli activists) and IDF soldiers.

The Israeli DCL reported that the IDF will have to abide by the Court decision, but the Court gave no deadline to implement it, and, according to the DCL officer, no date for implementation has been decided by the IDF. The process is very complicated for the IDF, as it must determine a "satisfactory" new route with consideration paid to security concerns and technical issues. The Barrier gate, staffed by IDF soldiers, is opened only for the residents of Bil'in from 6am-8pm, according to a previous decision by the Israeli High Court of Justice.

Tightened Closure during Jewish Holidays in Hebron

During the Jewish holidays of Rosh Hashana, Yom Kippur and Sukkot, thousands of Israeli settlers and their supporters visited the H2 area of Hebron, resulting in an increasingly tense environment in the city, multiple acts of settler violence and a tightened regime of movement restrictions. *(For more information, see Violence and Private Property section herein).*

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 Programme (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 Programme (WFP), World Health Organization (WHO), Al Haq, Badil, Save the Children (UK), Defence for Children International – Palestine Section (DCI-PS), Oxfam GB, Palestine Hydrology Group (PHG) and members of the Temporary International Mechanism (TIM).



Overview- Regional Focus

West Bank including East Jerusalem

Tens of houses damaged during IDF operation in Ein Beit el Ma' (No. 1) Camp

On 18 September, the IDF launched a military operation in Ein Beit el Ma' (No. 1) Camp, west of Nablus city. According to the IDF, the operation's goal was to apprehend operatives in a cell planning to carry out a suicide attack in Tel Aviv. The operation lasted for 75 hours, during which the camp's population of some 6,900 people was placed under curfew. On the first day of the operation, a 17-year-old Palestinian boy was killed, and, on the second, a 38-year-old Palestinian man was killed inside his house. In total, 25 Palestinians were injured including two children and one female. In addition, one IDF soldier was killed and five were injured. This operation was the longest in a series of IDF military operations in the camp in the last two months. It was the most destructive in the camp, in terms of damage to houses, since operation "Defensive Shield" in March / April 2002.

The IDF reported that an explosives belt, intended for use in the planned Tel Aviv operation, was subsequently found, based on information obtained from individuals arrested during the operation in the camp. During the operation, the IDF had conducted a house to house search campaign, forcing its way through the walls between houses in the camp, using hammers and explosives. In addition to the damage caused to the houses, the furniture of many of the houses was damaged as well. A total of 169 houses and two commercial shops were damaged during the operation. On the third day, the IDF destroyed the homes belonging to three militants' families, bulldozing one and blowing up two with explosives. As a result, 60 people, including 17 children, lost their homes.

Arrangements for the 2007 Olive Harvest

Palestinians in the oPt began preparations for the coming olive harvest season in September. Olive oil production in the West Bank has a natural fluctuation. Some 85,000 dunums of land in the West Bank are planted with olive trees, while there are some 25,000 dunums in the Gaza Strip. In a good year, the production of olive oil can reach up to 32,000 tonnes, while each second year the production drops to about 7,000 tonnes. This year the production level in the West Bank is expected to be at the 7,000 tonnes marker. In Gaza, there is little fluctuation since the groves are irrigated: oil production reaches about 500 tonnes each year, but its quality is generally poor. On average, Palestinians in the oPt consume between 10,000 – 12,000 tonnes of olive oil per year. Due to the low level of production expected this year, the price of olive oil is expected to rise, exceeding 20NIS

per kg, thus constituting a good source of income for many Palestinian farmers.

Palestinian-owned olive groves behind the Barrier and groves near Israeli settlements and IDF bases are known to be points of friction between settlers, the IDF and Palestinian farmers. Coordination meetings with the IDF for the olive harvest have been held in the West Bank and lists of these areas, along with dates for entering them, are being prepared to ensure safe and comprehensive access of Palestinian farmers to their land. Coordination has been carried out with the involvement of the Palestinian Civilian Affairs Committee (CAC), the Palestinian Ministry of Agriculture, the Governors' Offices, the Palestinian District Coordination Offices (DCO) and the Palestinian Olive Oil Council (POOC), together with ICRC and OCHA.

Gaza Strip

Sardine Catch

The autumn sardine season typically lasts from September to November. A popular fish present in traditional Gazan meals, sardines are the cheapest and most available kind of fish in Gaza.

In September 2006, nearly 85 tonnes of sardines were caught and put up for sale on the Gazan market. During the same period this year, only 32 tonnes were caught, representing a 62% decrease. The main reason for this decline can be attributed to the lack of access to the sea. Sardines can only be caught in waters out 8 nautical miles from the shore. The Gaza Strip's fishing limit was set at 20 nautical miles in the 1995 Oslo Agreements. Last year, during the same period, Gazan fisher folk were allowed to fish up to 10 nautical miles. This year, however, the fishing zone has been restricted to 6 nautical miles, though in practice the Israeli Coast Guard has been forcing fisher folk to retreat to much shallower depths (notably in Rafah).

Since fewer fisher folk can afford the costs of organizing fishing trips, a reduction has been reported in the number of fisher folk working and in the number of trips organized. Consequently, there has been a decrease in the number of fish caught. Maintenance for boats and equipment is also overdue due to a lack of spare parts in Gaza. The total catch of all fish throughout September this year totaled 97 tonnes, compared to 203 tonnes last year.



Protection of Civilians

Protection of civilians analysis

There was a 21% decrease in the number of Palestinians killed in direct-conflict related incidents in September compared to August (37 vs. 47), but the total remains higher than the combined figure for the first three months of 2007 (37 vs. 34). Similar to the general trend, the Gaza Strip constituted 81% of direct conflict deaths this month. In the West Bank, Nablus and Jenin governorates continue to represent the majority of deaths (57%).

Injuries emanating from direct conflict fell by 12% between August and September (154 vs. 135); the decrease was witnessed in both the West Bank and the Gaza Strip but was especially marked in the Khan Younis and Rafah governorates. Nonetheless, in comparison with August, there was a perceptible increase in the number of Palestinians injured in Nablus (33 vs. 17), Jenin (11 vs. 7), and North Gaza governorates (34 vs. 11). Ninety-three (93%) of injured Palestinians were injured by the IDF and 7% by Israeli settlers.

One IDF soldier was killed in September during an IDF military operation in 'Ein Beit el Ma' Camp (Nablus). In addition, 83 Israelis were injured, including 80 IDF soldiers, two Israeli settlers, and one Israeli protestor. Eighty-three percent (83%) of injured Israelis were the 69 IDF soldiers injured on 11 September as a result of the firing of a Qassam rocket from the Gaza Strip that hit an IDF training base near Kibbutz Zikkim.

Twelve (12) Palestinians were killed in internal violence in September; the same as in August. Of the September deaths, 66% took place in the Gaza Strip. There was an increase in the total number of Palestinians injured in internal violence: 163 in September, up from 126 in August.

No women were killed during September. A total of seven women were injured: four from direct conflict with Israel and three in internal violence.

Palestinian Prisoners

In September 2007, Israel released a total of 87 Palestinian prisoners as part of a goodwill gesture to President Mahmud Abbas. Most of the prisoners were affiliated with the Fatah faction aligned to President Abbas. More than 50% of those released would have finished their sentence in 2008-2009.

Despite these releases, an average of 112 persons in 2007 are arrested weekly by the IDF in the West Bank. This compares to 2006, when the average weekly number of arrests was 101 persons. Arrests are closely allied to the number of search campaigns conducted by the IDF, which

has also increased from an average of 109 per week in 2006 to 115 in 2007. (There is also a correlation between search and arrest campaigns and the numbers of fatalities that occur. In the West Bank in 2007, death as a result of search and arrest campaigns constituted the major cause of fatalities from Israeli-Palestinian conflict-related violence.)

Currently, there are some 10,000 Palestinians held in Israeli jails, including 96 women (*for details on children detained, see Child Protection section herein*). There are also 840 persons held in administrative detention, that is, they are held in detention without charge or trial through administrative rather than judicial procedures. Administrative detention orders are generally issued on the basis of secret evidence which is not disclosed to the detainees or their counsel. As such, they violate the rights to due process and a fair trial guaranteed by the International Covenant on Civil and Political Rights, to which the Government of Israel is party.

Palestinians are amongst the most highly incarcerated population in the world⁴. The effect of having so many held in prison has had a devastating impact on family and economic life, particularly because imprisonment in Israel makes it difficult to arrange family visits. According to Article 76 of the Fourth Geneva Convention, to which the Government of Israel is party, protected persons living under occupation should serve their sentences in the occupied territory.



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."^a

	Total 2005 (monthly average)	Total 2006 (monthly average)	Sep-06	Oct-06	Nov-06	Dec-06	Jan-07	Feb-07	Mar-07	Apr-07	May-07	Jun-07	July-07	Aug-07	Sep-07
Number of Palestinian deaths - direct conflict¹															
West Bank	216 (18)	678 (57)	7	12	17	12	8	11	7	9	8	10	6	10	7
Gaza Strip			24	48	121	3	3	2	2	10	54	30	23	37	30
Israel			0	1	0	0	1	0	0	0	1	0	0	0	0
Number of Palestinian injuries - direct conflict															
West Bank	1260 (105)	3194 (266)	111	86	159	51	89	251	141	109	94	76	38	92	79
Gaza Strip			84	94	332	22	15	5	12	6	187	86	29	62	56
Number of Israeli deaths - direct conflict															
oPt	48 (4)	25 (2)	1	0	1	0	0	1	0	0	0	0	1	0	1
Israel			0	0	2	0	3	0	0	0	2	0	0	0	0
Number of Israeli injuries - direct conflict															
oPt	484 (40)	377 (31)	19	16	19	10	10	35	14	22	10	18	3	54	14
Israel			5	3	11	2	2	0	1	0	20	1	4	2	69
Number of Palestinian deaths - internal violence²															
West Bank	12 (>1)	146 (12)	0	5	1	4	2	0	0	1	7	5	4	1	4
Gaza Strip			13	27	14	25	54	48	16	16	63	188	11	11	8
Number of Palestinian injuries - internal violence															
West Bank	130 (11)	871 (76)	0	29	1	45	12	5	2	10	25	25	18	7	24
Gaza Strip			73	257	35	130	249	285	102	88	308	841	56	119	139
Average weekly IDF searches, arrests and detentions in the West Bank³															
Search Campaigns	Ave Weekly (61)	Ave Weekly (109)	124	118	145	122	108	135	127	126	124	108	91	102	96
Arrests and Detentions	Ave Weekly (74)	Ave Weekly (101)	72	81	133	101	121	155	121	88	105	124	75	108	108

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



Child Protection

Eight Palestinian children were killed in September, compared to 11 children killed in August. Of the children killed this month, 5 were killed by the IDF, two in internal conflict, and one by Israeli settlers. This brings the total number of Palestinian children killed in 2007 to 78.

Throughout the month, 32 Palestinian children were injured in the conflict with Israel, a 39% increase compared to August. The majority of children were injured in military operations in the West Bank cities of Nablus and Jenin. A total of 11 children were injured in Jenin and another ten in Nablus. A total of 279 children have been injured in 2007. Of those, 66.7% were injured by the IDF, 9.7% by Palestinians in internal violence, and 7.9% by Israeli settlers (excluding hit and run incidents). All children killed or injured this month were boys. No Israeli child was either killed or injured this month.

At least, 87 people were reported as displaced due to demolition of their homes this month. Of those, some 23 are children. During the military incursion into 'Ein Beit el Ma' refugee camp in Nablus, a total of 169 houses and two commercial shops were damaged by the IDF.

Palestinian children detained in Israeli prisons and detention centres

At any given point during 2007, there have been between 328 and 384 Palestinian children held in Israeli prisons and interrogation centers in the oPt and Israel. This figure includes between 10 and 14 children being held under administrative detention. Of the detained children in 2007, 52% were being held pending determination of their cases in Israeli Military Courts, 40% were serving sentences and the remaining 8% were being detained and interrogated.

The large majority of children are held in custody in prisons and interrogation centres inside Israel, in violation of international humanitarian law. Some children share prison cells with adult prisoners and some are held in solitary confinement. All Palestinian children are interrogated in the absence of an independent adult family member or lawyer (as recommended by the UN Standard Minimum Rules for the Administration of Juvenile Justice). Palestinian child detainees are frequently subjected to forms of ill treatment and abuse, which in cases has amounted to torture, including physical assault, various forms of deprivation and threats of physical harm -- the ultimate aim of which is to incite fear and elicit a confession.

Upon their release by the Israeli Prison Service, Palestinian children are not offered any form of rehabilitation service that would assist their reintegration back into the community and into school. The majority are transported to an Israeli checkpoint near the prison where they are held and left to contact their families and find their own way home.

Back-to-School Issues

Students in several areas faced difficulties accessing educational facilities at the start of the school year. West Bank students from Bir Nabala have been prohibited from passing through the nearest Barrier gate to access their school, although they were previously allowed to do so. During the reporting period, two UNRWA schools in Nablus were closed due to Israeli military-imposed curfews, while all schools in Beit Hanoun were disrupted during the Israeli incursion that began on 26 September.

After a delay due to the tightened closure on the Gaza Strip, UNRWA has now been able to import computer equipment, some medical supplies, and teaching aids to Gaza. Those companies supplying UNRWA text books also finally received the paper, printing plates and toner necessary for printing more than 350,000 books. However, the delay in delivery of these supplies meant that one third of UNRWA students started the new school year without the necessary books.



Child Protection

“Child protection includes strategies and activities aimed at the protection of children under 18 against abuse, exploitation and violence.”^b

Children under 18 continue to be victims of Israeli-Palestinian violence and of conflict within the Palestinian community. UN Security Council Resolution 1612, adopted on 26 July 2005, makes explicit the need for protection of children in armed conflict. This section's indicators are used to monitor the rights of children for protection as stated in this Resolution.

	Total 2005 (monthly average)	Total 2006 (monthly average)	Sep-06	Oct-06	Nov-06	Dec-06	Jan-07	Feb-07	Mar-07	Apr-07	May-07	Jun-07	Jul-07	Aug-07	Sep-07
Number of Palestinian children killed - direct conflict⁴															
West Bank	52 (4)	127 (11)	1	1	5	2	3	0	1	1	0	1	2	2	3
Gaza Strip			9	5	23	1	1	1	0	2	9	3	1	6	2
Number of Palestinian children injured - direct conflict⁵															
West Bank	129 (11)	470 (39)	26	20	58	18	12	30	11	31	22	14	14	21	29
Gaza Strip			1	2	8	2	1	0	2	2	10	4	1	2	3
Number of Israeli children killed - direct conflict⁶															
oPt	3 (<1)	1 (<1)	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Israel	3 (<1)	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Number of Israeli children injured - direct conflict⁷															
oPt	4	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Israel	0	7 (<1)	1	0	2	2	0	0	0	0	0	0	1	0	0
Number of Palestinian children killed - indirect conflict⁸															
West Bank	5 (<1)	2 (<1)	1	0	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	1
Gaza Strip	3 (<1)	6 (<1)	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	1	5	0	2	0
Number of Palestinian children killed in Palestinian internal violence⁹															
West Bank	0	2 (<1)	0	0	0	2	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	1
Gaza Strip	0	11 (<1)	0	3	1	3	10	4	3	1	3	4	1	1	1
Number of Palestinian children held in detention by Israeli authorities¹⁰															
West Bank	n/a	n/a	389	348	340	380	382	398	384	381	357	384	375	328	335

For more information, please contact UNICEF, (02) 583 0013 (Steinunn Björvinsdóttir and Asmahan Nasser).



Violence and Private Property

Settler Violence and Tightened Closure during Jewish Holidays in Hebron

The Jewish holidays of Rosh Hashana, Yom Kippur and Sukkot coincided this year with the Muslim Holy Month of Ramadan, which began in mid-September. During the Jewish holidays, many Israeli settlers and their supporters visited the H2 area of Hebron, resulting in an increasingly tense environment in the city. Israeli newspapers estimated that 40,000 Israeli visitors and protestors came through the area over the holiday period. A heavy IDF presence was deployed to protect them. Due to the influx of Jewish settlers and supporters, Hebron residents faced a tightened regime of movement restrictions. There are already 76 closures in the vicinity of the Old Suq – in an area only 0.7 kilometres squared –, so further restrictions hinder life considerably. Ten of these restrictions are staffed checkpoints.

Increased tensions and acts of settler violence

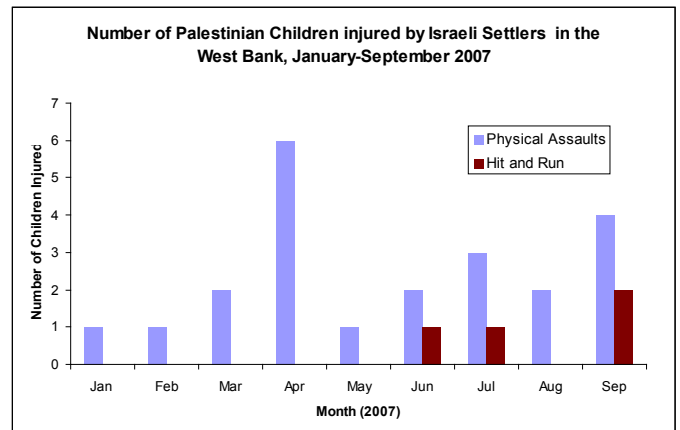
- Some settlers occupied the roof of Al Qutb Mosque in the Old City and attempted to build an outpost.
- Israeli settlers beat and injured a 13-year-old boy in the H2 area of Hebron City.
- One Israeli protester, one Israeli police officer, and one IDF soldier were injured in clashes between Israeli security forces and settlers.
- Two Palestinians, a girl and boy, both aged 16, were injured by the firing of live ammunition by the IDF. The firing took place when the soldiers suspected that the boy was carrying a rifle, though, in fact, he was playing with a plastic toy rifle.

Restrictions at Ibrahimi Mosque

The Ibrahimi mosque in Hebron is of great significance to Muslims and praying there is especially important during Ramadan. The mosque is also the site of the Synagogue of the Machpela Cave, sacred to Jews. During the six holiest days of the Jewish holiday period, the IDF closed the mosque to Palestinian worshippers. On one occasion in the second week of Ramadan, Israeli Border Police stationed at the mosque, closed the entrance, trapping inside the people who had come to pray for two hours. On Lailat Al Qader, the holiest night in Ramadan, which falls during the last week of the month, settlers threw garbage on Palestinian worshippers who were trying to reach the Ibrahimi mosque to pray. Once at the mosque, the IDF fired sound bombs inside the mosque's yards, interrupting prayers and creating chaos in the mosque.

Increase of Palestinian Child Casualties of Settler Violence

An increased number of Palestinian children were injured by Israeli settlers in September; compared to the preceding two months (six in September; two in August, and four in July). Two of the six injured children were hit by Israeli settler vehicles in hit and run incidents in the H2 area of Hebron and the remaining four were physically assaulted by Israeli settlers in the same area. One child was killed when he was hit by an Israeli settler bus while walking alongside a road near his village Kifl Haris in the Salfit Governorate. Approximately 81% of Palestinian children injured by Israeli settlers in 2007 were in the Hebron governorate, particularly the H2 area. It is expected that settler attacks will remain elevated during the olive harvest.





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.”^c

	Total 2005 (monthly average)	Total 2006 (monthly average)	Oct -06	Nov -06	Dec -06	Jan -07	Feb -07	Mar-07	Apr -07	May -07	Jun -07	Jul -07	Aug -07	Sep -07
Incidents involving Israeli settlers¹¹														
Total number of incidents	n/a	235 (20)	19	30	17	10	20	15	21	15	17	37	30	22
Leading to Palestinian casualties	n/a	63 (5)	1	6	2	2	4	7	11	5	6	7	9	9
Leading to Israeli Settler casualties	n/a	28 (2)	3	2	2	1	3	2	3	0	0	0	4	1
Leading to international casualties	n/a	11 (<1)	2	2	0	0	0	1	1	2	0	0	0	0
Number of Palestinian Qassam rockets fired into/towards Israel¹²														
From the Gaza Strip	1 194 (100)	1 786 (149)	72	283	73	46	79	73	60	323	140	96	120	97
Number of IDF artillery shells														
Into the Gaza Strip	509 (42)	14 111 (1175)	113	248	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Number of IAF air strikes														
In the Gaza Strip	n/a	573 (48)	38	93	0	2	0	1	3	65	14	13	17	10
Number of Mortars fired¹³														
In the Gaza Strip	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	9	2	3	45	76	133	164	122
Towards IDF troops	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	17	17	9
Physical structures demolished - West Bank¹⁴														
Structures demolished	n/a	201	0	35	4	18	54	8	11	8	7	10	17	29
Of which residential (occupied)	n/a	56 (5)	0	14	3	14	17	2	7	4	2	5	11	5
Physical structures demolished - Gaza Strip														
Structures demolished	n/a	246 (21)	24	38	0	0	0	0	0	16	2	1	1	0
Of which homes demolished	n/a	127 (11)	18	32	0	0	0	0	0	1	1	1	1	0

For more information, please contact OCHA, (02) 582 9962 (Catherine Cook or Mai Yassin)



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.”^d

	Monthly average 2005	Monthly average 2006	Sep-06	Oct-06	Nov-06	Dec-06	Jan-07	Feb-07	Mar-07	Apr-07	May-07	Jun-07	Jul-07	Aug-07	Sep-07
IDF Physical obstacles in the West Bank¹⁵															
Manned	62	74	83	83	84	82	82	84	84	86	86	85	86	86	88
Unmanned	410	445	435	459	456	445	446	466	465	453	467	471	455	477	475
Total	472	518	518	542	540	527	528	550	549	539	553	55	541	563	563
Average weekly Random or 'Flying' checkpoints	73	136	121	111	143	138	114	156	163	175	141	105	113	100	104
Curfews imposed by IDF¹⁶															
No. Incidents - West Bank	9	4	1	1	2	2	2	3	4	4	5	10	0	4	5
Total hours under curfew - West Bank	126	40	14	3	12	26	28	91	21	20	48	79	0	27	77
No. Incidents - Gaza Strip	0	0	0	0	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Total hours under curfew - Gaza Strip	0	18	0	0	144	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Access incidents reported by humanitarian organisations¹⁷															
Access incidents reported in the West Bank	n/a	79	66	62	79	38	38	n/a	28	42	34	38	47	46	41
Average reported time to exit the Gaza Strip via Erez, in minutes.	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	53	47	81	44	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a
Ambulances incidents in the West Bank and access for medical referrals from the Gaza Strip to West Bank and Israel¹⁸															
Ambulance access delays reported at West Bank checkpoints	n/a	10	11	7	2	n/a	15	26	11	25	36	39	44	37	27
Ambulance access denial reported at West Bank checkpoints	n/a	9	5	9	4	n/a	16	25	9	14	24	32	40	27	20
MoH medical referral requests (via Erez)	n/a	459	438	379	509	434	506	595	681	515	737	413	872	985	715
Actual no. of medical referrals receiving permits to cross (via Erez)	n/a	416	402	344	455	399	452	540	596	460	664	369	777	787	591
Access for Palestinians to East Jerusalem and Israel from oPt¹⁹															
West Bank (total closure days)	n/a	n/a	20	4	11	4	0	0	5	13	1	0	0	0	10
Gaza Strip (total closure days)	n/a	17	11	0	0	1	0	0	4	4	1	17	31	31	30
Movement of people from/to Gaza Strip - daily average²⁰															
Workers to Israel - Erez	1029	378	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Traders to Israel - Erez	107	42	4	28	93	172	243	290	352	157	318	262	0	n/a	0
Rafah - daily crossing out	n/a	423	117	250	140	289	138	240	410	383	304	200	0	0	0
Rafah daily crossing in	n/a	424	151	220	155	199	270	139	309	345	294	125	0	0	0

For more information, please contact OCHA, (02) 582 9962 (Ray Dolphin)





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.”^e

	Monthly average 2005	Monthly average 2006	Oct-06	Nov-06	Dec-06	Jan-07	Feb-07	Mar-07	Apr-07	May-07	Jun-07	Jul-07	Aug-07	Sep-07
Functioning of the Gaza Strips crossing points - percentage of days open/scheduled days open²¹														
Rafah crossing	n/a	57%	23%	20%	32%	26%	25%	48%	37%	26%	18%	0%	0%	0%
Karni crossing	n/a	71%	96%	92%	96%	100%	92%	92%	96%	85%	46%	26%	0%	0%
Sufa crossing	n/a	60%	87%	77%	92%	100%	96%	29%	16%	43%	15%	100%	95%	68%
Nahal Oz energy pipelines	n/a	n/a	88%	100%	88%	100%	100%	96%	100%	96%	92%	100%	96%	100%
Movement of goods through Karni crossing - daily average²²														
Karni import - commercial truckloads incl. humanitarian supplies	n/a	156	189	191	196	220	232	218	253	210	84	13	10	19
Karni export - commercial truckloads incl. humanitarian supplies	n/a	17	19	31	40	46	52	44	51	25	12	0	0	0
Other imports into the Gaza Strip - total²³														
Sufa import - aggregates (construction materials) truckloads	3 527	1 598	2178	1652	2422	3455	3257	1034	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	0	0
Nahal Oz import - Fuel truckloads	n/a	583	493	548	532	539	714	601	n/a	n/a	n/a	523	474	396

Economic/access data for the West Bank are being investigated by OCHA

For more information, please contact OCHA, (02) 582 9962 (Ray Dolphin).

Access to Jerusalem during Ramadan

Carrying-out Friday prayers at Al Aqsa mosque in the Old City of Jerusalem has a special significance for Muslims during Ramadan. Prior to the beginning of Ramadan, the guidelines distributed by the Israeli and Palestinian DCLs announced that men over 50 would be allowed to enter Jerusalem on Fridays without an Israeli-issued permit and that men 45-50 years old would be able to obtain a newly-introduced “prayer permit” to cross. Regarding the passage of women, there was some discrepancy between information circulated by the Israeli civil administration and that published by the Palestinian DCL. The general understanding, however, was that women over 45 would be able to pass freely.

Despite these guidelines, on the first Friday of Ramadan (14 September), crowds gathering at each checkpoint were given conflicting information on the age limits and permits, and this information differed from that which was broadcast on the days before. At Gilo checkpoint, the announced age limits changed three times in the course of a few hours, leading to much confusion and tension. Procedures continued to vary throughout the month. On some Fridays, children were allowed to cross with older relatives, but on the last Friday (5 October), even young children were turned back. On the second Friday of Ramadan (21 September), no access was allowed for West Bank Palestinians whatsoever, as all checkpoints were closed for the Jewish holiday of Yom Kippur.

Crowd control measures used by the IDF and Border police during Ramadan, included barriers, using jeeps to shepherd

crowds, and occasional pushing. At Qalandiya checkpoint, stun grenades were used on the final Friday of Ramadan. However, unlike Ramadan last year, no tear gas was used at any of the crossings into Jerusalem this year, and, overall, the checkpoints were better organized.

During September, a total of 1,508 truckloads, including 102 from humanitarian agencies, crossed into Gaza through Sufa, Kerem Shalom and Karni crossings. This compares to 2,468 truckloads in the month of August and 3,190 in July.

Gaza Crossings

- Erez remained closed for all Palestinians, except critical medical cases and those working with international organizations. Since 17 September, no Palestinian trader has been allowed to cross into Israel.
- Rafah crossing last opened on 9 June. It is reported that at least 1,000 Palestinians are reported now to be stranded in Egypt, waiting to cross back into Gaza. More than 5,000 Palestinians in Gaza have applied through the Palestinian Civil Affairs Department for permits to enter Israel, in order to leave Gaza to Egypt via Israel. Fewer than 500 have been allowed to leave on the Erez-Nitzana/Ai Auja buses since Israel began this alternative route on 26 August. The route has been halted since 9 September.
- Karni crossing was last open on 11 June and since then has been closed for all imports and exports. A single conveyor belt used for wheat grain and animal feed typically operates outside the crossing, twice a week.



Socio-economic Conditions

Difficult Socio-economic Conditions during the Holy Month of Ramadan

Consumption patterns of refugee families changed little this year during Ramadan. In many areas, the dinner to break the daily fast during Ramadan, *iftar*, was reduced to a minimum and many families were unable to celebrate Ramadan as a special month. In villages around Jerusalem, as well as in Bethlehem and Hebron cities, the number of relatives and friends invited for *iftar* was reportedly significantly reduced compared to previous years, as people cannot afford any additional expenses.

Quality and variety of food items consumed during Ramadan were also reportedly poor. Some families purchased old bread from bakeries in order to ensure bigger quantities, while others regularly used concentrate meat cubes as a substitute for fresh meat, which they can no longer afford.

UNRWA social workers reported that a delay in food distributions of a few weeks in the Biddu area, in the Jerusalem governorate, triggered extreme reactions from beneficiaries, who relied heavily on food aid during the month of Ramadan. Refugee families, including Bedouin families, revealed that they can no longer afford to buy basic food items due to the recent hike in prices and reportedly must simply wait for the next distribution round to obtain the products they ran out of.

General Anecdotal Evidence

- There are a number of informal workshops (in particular related to production and selling of small handicrafts, pastries, and preparation of seasonal vegetables) being operated out of people's homes in the West Bank. A number of these were previously open formal businesses that have been forced to close in recent months, while others are newly opened in people's homes. An increasing number of women engage in such activities in an attempt to bolster family income.
- In rural communities around Jerusalem, engagements for marriage are reportedly being broken, as men are unable to meet the financial requirements of a wedding, even after years of engagement in some cases. While these engagements are usually broken by the bride's family, the social consequences for women are frequently severe. In particular, if the engagement was registered, the woman is then considered a divorcee and she is confronted with significant freedom restrictions and limited opportunities for future marriage.

- Increasing concerns have been reported for months on the high price of tankered water in many areas of the West Bank. Water shortages affect the Hebron area strongly, with a consequent raise in expenses for domestic consumption.
- Residents of Al Majd, in the southern West Bank, highlight that the excessive cost of tankered water is preventing advancement of agricultural activities, thereby further impacting their opportunities to find work as agricultural labourers; to produce items that if sold, could support household income; or to produce items that could allow them to save on the purchase of food.
- Major debts from unpaid utility bills are constantly reported, especially among rural communities. In Qattaneh village in the Jerusalem governorate, residents reportedly accumulated a debt of NIS 2,500,000 for unpaid utilities bills. As a result, the Israeli Water Company reduced their water supply to one day a week. At present, houses located uphill cannot receive piped water due to a lack of municipal resources for maintenance and renovation of the existing network.

Mawa'd Ar-Rahman --literally "the most gracious and most merciful dining tables"-- was first established in 1985 to provide a meal to the *Mu'taki'een*, secluded young men devoting their time to praying in Al Aqsa mosque during the month of Ramadan. With the start of the second *Intifada*, and the concurrent deterioration of socio-economic conditions among the Palestinian population, provision of free meals increased significantly. This year, about 1,500 hot meals were distributed daily in Al Aqsa mosque during the first two weeks of Ramadan, with much higher numbers recorded on Fridays and Saturdays (approx. 4,000 a day). In the past, families living in the old city of Jerusalem and nearby neighbourhoods represented the great majority of beneficiaries. This year, however, meals were increasingly provided to Palestinians coming from villages around Jerusalem (among others, Abu Dis and Al Aizaryia), reflecting the increasing needs of these communities.



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”^f

	Q1 1998	Q1 1999	Q1 2000	Q1 2001	Q1 2002	Q1 2003	Q1 2004	Q1 2005	Q1 2006	Q2 2006	Q1 2007	Q2 2007
Unemployment rate - relaxed definition - % - PCBS²⁴												
West Bank	23.5%	22.9%	16.9%	32.5%	35.0%	40.3%	31.0%	28.8%	27.2%	24.2%	24.3%	22.6%
Gaza Strip	30.7%	27.9%	21.8%	48.8%	46.4%	37.3%	35.1%	38.0%	39.6%	38.7%	35.4%	32.3%
oPt	26.0%	24.7%	20.2%	37.7%	38.7%	39.3%	32.3%	31.7%	31.1%	28.6%	27.9%	25.7%
Households in poverty - based on consumption - % - PCBS²⁵												
Poor	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	16.8%	23.8%	18.1%	25.9%	n/a	n/a
Number of Palestinians employed in Israel and in the settlements - PCBS²⁶												
West Bank	74213	107067	105501	105501	57000	43281	49750	65255	59846	57683	68100	63700
Gaza Strip	21899	25758	25380	2580	2000	6295	5849	0	852	0	0	0
oPt	96112	132825	130881	107630	59000	49576	55999	65255	60698	57683	68100	63700
Economic dependency ratio - PCBS²⁷												
West Bank	n/a	n/a	n/a	5.7	6	6.6	5.7	5.6	5.4	5	5.0	4.7
Gaza Strip	n/a	n/a	n/a	9.1	8.8	7.5	7.5	8.2	8.4	8	7.3	6.9
oPt	n/a	n/a	n/a	6.6	6.8	6.9	6.3	6.3	6.2	6	5.7	5.3
Evolution of consumer price index (CPI) - PCBS²⁸												
West Bank	10.9%	19.9%	24.8%	26.0%	32.0%	39.7%	44.2%	49.2%	54.3%	54.7%	57.0%	55.7%
Gaza Strip	12.6%	21.9%	24.7%	22.8%	23.2%	26.4%	32.0%	33.8%	38.1%	40.0%	42.0%	41.9%
oPt	11.3%	20.7%	20.7%	24.2%	28.4%	36.2%	41.4%	46.1%	51.0%	52.1%	53.5	53.1%
Evolution of daily wages in NIS - PCBS²⁹												
West Bank	57.9	57.7	61.5	60	57.7	60	62.8	60	70	69.2	70.0	69.2
Gaza Strip	45.0	45.0	48.2	60	50	50	50	55.8	65.4	67.3	66.9	57.7
oPt	53.9	51.35	54.8	55	53.85	55.6	57.7	57.7	69.2	69.2	69.2	65.4

For more information, please contact UNRWA, (02) 589 0500 (Valentina Debernardi)

PCBS Labour Force Survey Q2 2007

Dependency on PA employment increased:
160.000 PA employees in oPt

Represents:

22.9% of the employed people in oPt
16.3% of the employed people in the West Bank
36.1% of the employed people in the Gaza Strip

PCBS Poverty Consumption-based Yearly Figures

	West Bank	Gaza Strip	oPt
1998	14.5%	33%	20.3%
2001	16.2%	41.9%	23.6%
2004	19.8%	37.2%	25.6%
2005	22.3%	43.7%	29.5%
2006	24%	50.7%	30.8%

Poverty can be defined by using either of two indices: Consumption-based poverty, and Income-based poverty. For clarifications on definitions, please see footnote # 25.

Deep Poverty in the oPt Consumption-based (PCBS)

	West Bank	Gaza Strip	oPt
1998	8.4%	21.6%	12.5%
2001	12.0%	35.4%	19.5%
2004	11.6%	26.0%	16.4%
2005	13.1%	27.9%	18.0%
2006	13.0%	34.8%	18.5%

Source: PCBS, Poverty in Palestine (Aug 2007)



Health

“Health is a state of complete physical, mental and social well-being and not merely the absence of disease or infirmity.”⁸

Cold Chain Assessment (UNICEF)

UNICEF has conducted a cold chain assessment in the PHC facilities during the period 11-25 September. A random sample of four MoH and UNRWA PHC facilities in the five districts of the Gaza Strip was taken in order to conduct the assessment. The main components of the assessment are: vaccine storage; functionality of the fridges; the administration of vaccines-related components that include side effects associated with the administered vaccine; and health education provided to mothers during the immunization schedule and the distribution of vitamin A and D and iron supplementations. After the release of the final assessment report, new interventions will be decided upon with the MoH to support the MoH immunization service provision with respect to building staff capacity, ensuring availability of required equipment, and strengthening storage capacity and the availability of the supplementations.

Municipal Workers' Strike (WHO)

The municipal workers strike was suspended on 2 September after workers received their salaries for January 2007. During the strike, the emergence of communicable diseases was of concern for WHO. Though the number of cases remained within normal seasonal variations, data collected on the number of watery diarrhea cases among children (0-3 years), attending UNRWA PHC centres during the period of the strike, revealed an increase of about 20%, compared to the same period in 2006. The interruption of garbage collection by municipal workers may have contributed to this increase.

Functioning of the Health System (WHO and UNICEF)

After Hamas's takeover of the Gaza Strip, some health personnel, including key management staff, were dismissed and others were relocated. At present, many health personnel are not reporting for work, possibly because of their discontent with being relocated or with the dismissal of their respective supervisors and key managers. WHO and UNICEF are greatly concerned about the possible impact of these measures on the functioning of the health system.

Access to Health Care Services during September (WHO)

Rafah border crossing is still closed, following Hamas's takeover of the Gaza Strip. The only exit for patients referred abroad for treatment is Erez checkpoint. In September, 591 out of 715 requests for permits to cross Erez were granted approval. The rest were denied access for security reasons. During the last two weeks of September, of the 221 applicants granted permits to cross Erez, only 192 actually crossed the checkpoint, according to the Palestinian Liaison Officer at the checkpoint. (This figure includes patients and their accompanying companions.) The others were prevented from crossing by the IDF either at the time they submitted their name and ID number to the Palestinian Liaison Officer at the checkpoint or when they submitted their papers to the IDF at the checkpoint.

Impact of the Health Workers' Strike in the Gaza Strip (continued from Key Issues)

All children seeking immunization services at the MoH PHC facilities received the service during the strike. The distribution of Vitamin A and D as well as iron supplementation to children and the provision of individual health education for mothers during the immunization sessions were also not affected.

As for staff attendance, an average of 95% of health personnel complied with the strike. Five out of 15 PHC centers in the middle area and ten out of the 15 PHC centers in the Gaza District were completely closed during the strike time. After the suspension of the strike, service provision in all the surveyed PHC districts and hospitals returned to their normal levels for all services, except for diagnostic services. Shortages in laboratory reagents and the non-functionality of laboratory equipment continues to be a problem and staff attendance remains irregular in the majority of surveyed facilities.



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.”^h

	Oct -06	Nov -06	Dec -06	Jan -07	Feb -07	Mar -07	Apr -07	May-07	Jun-07	Jul-07	Aug-07	Sep-07
Number of primary health care consultations by service provider³⁰												
MoH - West Bank	39 979	39 294	143 242	173 742	101 197	53090	49270	53833	16360	n/a	n/a	n/a
UNRWA - West Bank	133 568	166 495	168 816	155 727	150 728	168 155	156246	175466	158420	153433	162,627	n/a
NGOs-West Bank	68444	75459	87469	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a
MoH - Gaza Strip	199 119	198 606	198 023	207 953	207215	212 903	235922	228046	216294	n/a	n/a	n/a
UNRWA - Gaza Strip	277 173	307 015	285 569	326 234	304 836	328282	336433	350374	324193	386560	370,756	n/a
NGOs - Gaza Strip	14 416	16 397	14 633	17 552	18 592	19 627	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a
Proportion of deliveries by service provider³¹												
MoH - West Bank	17.7%	11.7%	37.3%	64.6%	39.50%	48.20%	15.80%	14.60%	43.80%	54.60%	n/a	n/a
MoH - Gaza Strip	69.6%	69.1%	69.6%	72%	82%	68%	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a
NGOs - West Bank	53.3%	55.8%	42.9%	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	13.20%	n/a	n/a
NGOs - Gaza Strip	16.1%	16.5%	14.4%	12%	7%	20%	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a
Private hospitals and clinics- West Bank	29.1%	32.6%	18.8%	31%	56.80%	46.50%	73.70%	73.40%	52.05%	25.90%	n/a	n/a
Private hospitals and clinics- Gaza Strip	17.0%	16.4%	15.7%	15.8%	10.8%	12.0%	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a
Home - West Bank	6.09%	7.88%	4.98%	5.52%	6.18%	4.69%	4.28	5.74%	5.47%	6.32%	n/a	n/a
Home - Gaza Strip	0.2%	0.3%	0.2%	0.2%	0.18%	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a
UNRWA - Gaza Strip	0.1%	0.2%	0.1%	n/a	0.0%	0.0%	0.0%	0.0%	0.0%	0.0%	0.0%	n/a
Pharmaceutical items out of stock (416 drugs and 596 consumables)³²												
Drugs - West Bank	24%	19.7%	19.7%	n/a	19.7%	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a
Consumables - West Bank	n/a	n/a	23.0%	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a
Drugs - Gaza Strip	21.0%	16.8%	16.8%	14.7%	17.8%	24.0%	24.0%	28.6%	19.5%	15.60%	15.63%	14.7%
Consumables - Gaza Strip (at zero level)	10.9%	13.6%	n/a	9.7%	25.5%	31.2%	36.2%	22.8%	22.5%	n/a	26.68%	30.03%
Consumable - Gaza Strip (at less than three months)	39.4%	17.34%	24.2%	13.4%	23.3%	40.2%	49.8%	31.6%	32.0%	n/a	51.17%	49.33%
Malnutrition among children 9 - 12 months³³												
Underweight - West Bank	4.2%	4.0%	3.8%	5.5%	6.2%	4.7%	4.3%	5.7%	5.5%	n/a	n/a	n/a
Anemia - West Bank	48.1%	48.1%	44.6%	50.5%	53.3%	44.6%	45.69%	45.0%	50.0%	n/a	n/a	n/a
Underweight - Gaza Strip	5.47%	5%	n/a	2.9%	2.3%	2.6%	3.2%	3.85%	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a
Anemia - Gaza Strip	70.6%	66.7%	66.73%	67.8%	67.5%	71.9%	7.23%	72.2%	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a
Number of consultation for diarrhoea in refugee children 0-3 years at UNRWA clinics³⁴												
West Bank	861	966	867	786	793	888	637	1068	921	1032	n/a	n/a
Gaza Strip	1 454	1 389	1 314	1 025	942	991	1224	1765	1574	1693	1,596	1325
Number of new cases attending community and hospital mental health services³⁵												
UNRWA- West Bank	n/a	n/a	134	132	34	n/a	193	151	173	171	155	n/a
UNRWA- Gaza Strip	n/a	n/a	35	27	58	n/a	47	25	20	3	n/a	n/a
MoH- West Bank												n/a
MoH- Gaza Strip	n/a	n/a	n/a	136	136	182	187	191	147	156	129	106
NGO- West Bank												n/a
NGO-Gaza Strip	32	49	33	42	67	71	58	46	35	50	35	n/a

For more information please contact WHO, (02) 582 3537 (Dr. Rajesh Sreedharan)



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.”

- The rise of cereals prices on the international markets, restrictions on goods allowed for entry to Gaza, along with the traditional increase in prices during the month of Ramadan have contributed to pushing upwards the price of the basic food basket by 14% in the West Bank and by 8% in the Gaza Strip compared to the previous month.
- The tightened closure imposed on the crossings into Gaza during the month of September due to both shelling by militants and Jewish holidays has caused a substantial drop in the imports levels for humanitarian and commercial commodities. The limited flow of food goods was felt on Gazan markets which experienced localized shortages of dairy products and vegetable oil, among other products.
- The actual stock of food commodities in Gaza is gradually depleting. For example, flour mills are reducing the daily milling capacity as a consequence of the low wheat imports, increasing the likelihood that bread will be unavailable in sufficient quantities to meet demand in the future.
- Approximately 91% of Social Hardship Cases in the West Bank and 86% in the Gaza Strip received their cash allowances from MoSA.

Palestinian herders and livestock farmers' livelihood at-risk

Raising small sheep and goats is a central part of the Palestinian rural economy and is central to the traditional rural way of life, especially in the southern West Bank. However, herders and livestock farmers in the oPt are currently facing a crisis due to rapidly increasing costs for fodder and water-trucking. At the same time, their access to grazing land is being eroded: accessible range land has been reduced by closure, restrictions on land use, absence of land due to the presence Israeli settlements, and isolation of land due to Barrier construction.

The increase in fodder prices is a worldwide trend, but there are local nuances, such as climatic change and a 17% import tax on fodder imported from Israel and other countries. An initial response to grazing shortages has been to increase stock on the range land available, but over-grazing has led to deterioration in range lands, further reducing available grazing.

Most farmers rely on rainwater harvesting, collecting winter rain in underground chambers or cisterns, for stock water. In late summer, these supplies are depleted and they have to truck water to their stock. Direct access to water filling-points is difficult due to movement restrictions imposed by the IDF and water trucks must take longer routes. The result is that tankered water is expensive. A recent assessment by FAO and OCHA found water prices of up to 100 NIS per cubic metre delivered. One sheep needs about 3 to 5 litres/day in normal conditions, a flock of 100 animals will need at least 3 to 5.5 cubic metres/week. This poses a considerable cost for a marginal farm operation.

The effect of these changes is that farmers are reducing flock sizes or are selling their flocks entirely, but prices are declining. This year, an adult sheep is sold for 65 JDs per head; while prices a year ago were nearly double this. Even at the current low price, only a limited number have been sold. Some of the poorest herders have no alternative source of income and become trapped in debt to fodder dealers.

The humanitarian impact has been to eliminate a source of subsistence farming and income that had provided a livelihood in rural areas. They might join the other aid-dependent parts of the population. Fodder distribution has become an emergency need, but it must be followed by a sustainable intervention on crop and fodder production.



Agriculture

	Total oPt 2006	Oct-06	Nov-06	Dec-06	Jan-07	Feb-07	Mar-07	Apr-07	May-07	Jun-07	Jul-07	Aug-07	Sep-07
Arable land requisitioned, levelled and reclaimed in dunums - West Bank³⁶													
Requisitioned	5 811	0	1 328	385	20	221	152	40	260	60	155	30	50
Levelled	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	110	216	105	30	60	130	720	25	75
People affected	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	190	497	210	203	650	170	370	125	182
Reclaimed	3 654	666	662	620	50	50	200	60	50	55	10	90	42
Arable land requisitioned levelled or reclaimed in dunums - Gaza Strip													
Requisitioned	6 516	850	1 100	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Levelled	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	0	0	0	0	2000	1330	9100	1600	1400
People affected	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	0	0	0	0	490	300	400	1400	2520
Reclaimed	1 635	500	365	240	105	126	0	20	0	0	0	0	0
Greenhouses land destroyed and rehabilitated in dunums - West Bank³⁷													
Destroyed	20	15	0	0	0	0	10	130	60	26	100	0	0
People affected	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	0	0	56	350	420	90	140	0	0
Rehabilitated	453	25	5	108	13	0	0	7	50	57	10	134	176
Greenhouses land destroyed and rehabilitated in dunums - Gaza Strip													
Destroyed	614	130	35	0	0	0	0	2	0	15	0	12	4
People affected	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	0	0	0	14	0	80	0	42	14
Rehabilitated	40	20	0	0	0	0	0	8	0	0	10	0	0
Number of trees destroyed³⁸													
Trees destroyed in the West Bank	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	340	600	150	100	200	300	80	375	30
People affected	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	70	140	35	70	50	94	20	90	21
Trees destroyed in the Gaza Strip	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	3600	5000
People affected	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	1100	420
Agricultural produce trading in/out the Gaza Strip - metric tonnes³⁹													
Import	83 884	27 048	23 576	24 168	43 276	15 738	15 501	16 834	17 101	11 270	16 401	9 526	29 111
Export	3 342	345	2 007	n/a	14 192	5 096	5 188	5 503	1 495	422	0	125	0

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



Food Security

	Benchmark	Monthly average 2006	Oct-06	Nov-06	Dec-06	Jan-07	Feb-07	Mar-07	Apr-07	May-07	Jun-07	Jul-07	Aug-07	Sep-07
Retail price of basic food commodities - West Bank, in NIS⁴⁰														
Wheat flour 50 kg		91.0	88.6	95.7	95	96.4	96.4	97.2	97.2	98.6	100	108.1	133	157
Olive oil 1 Kg		18.6	19	16.3	15	17.5	17.5	16.7	16.7	16.8	15.8	17.75	17.75	20.6
Rice 1 kg		3.6	3.7	3.7	3.7	4	4	3.9	3.9	4.1	4	4.28	5	4.3
Veg. oil 1 kg		5.5	5.6	5.6	5.6	5.8	5.8	5.8	5.8	5.9	5.8	6.163	6.163	7.2
Chickpeas 1 kg		4.8	4.7	4.3	4.3	4.6	4.6	5.3	5.3	4.3	4.6	4.5	4.5	5
Refined sugar 1 kg		3.7	3.4	3.7	3.7	3.5	3.5	3.3	3.3	3.2	3.1	3.51	3.51	3.3
Milk powder 1 kg		23.2	24.2	23.2	23.2	23.7	23.7	24.1	24.1	25	26	26	26	25.7
Basket of 7 items		150.5	149.2	152.5	150.5	155.5	155.5	156.3	156.3	157.9	159.3	170.3	195.923	223
Price of basic food commodities - Gaza Strip, in NIS⁴¹														
Wheat flour 50 kg		82.9	83.3	88.5	86.6	86	86.5	83.4	82.9	82.8	111	98	104.6	118.4
Olive oil 1 Kg		23.1	24.8	24.1	24.1	25	24.4	22.5	22.8	22.5	22.85	22.85	22.65	23.05
Rice 1 kg		3.3	3.2	3.2	3.2	3.3	3.4	3.3	3.2	3.1	3.7	4	4	4
Veg. oil 1 kg		5.5	5.8	5.8	5.8	6.1	6.3	5.8	5.9	5.7	6	6	6	6.62
Chickpeas 1 kg		5.3	5	4.6	4.6	5.5	5.6	5.5	5.4	5.1	4.9	5	5	5
Refined sugar 1 kg		4.2	6.6	3.6	3.6	3.8	3.6	3.3	3.4	3.3	3.36	3.07	2.66	2.66
Milk powder 1 kg		33.4	33.8	34.5	35.7	34.8	35.8	31.7	32.4	31.8	41.17	38.81	38.81	38.81
Basket of 7 items		157.1	162.5	164.3	163.5	164.5	165.4	155.5	155.7	154.1	157.7	177.7	183.72	198.54
Availability of basic commodities - Gaza Strip⁴² (against benchmark of quantities needed per day)														
Wheat - mT	450 mt/day/pop	-	n/a	7 960	11 870	11 700	10 865	8400	6800	10565	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a
Wheat - days	-	-	n/a	11	26	26	24	19	15	23	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a
Sugar - mT	111 mt/day/pop	-	n/a	1 505	1 560	1 750	1 995	2045	1930	2075	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a
Sugar - days	-	-	n/a	14	14	16	11	18	17	19	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a
Rice - mT	72 mt/day/pop	-	n/a	1 385	1 495	1 535	1 655	1725	1900	1670	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a
Rice - days	-	-	n/a	19	21	21	23	24	26	23	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a
Veg. oil - mT	44 mt/day/pop	-	n/a	1 065	1 105	1 050	1 240	1220	1220	1305	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a
Veg. oil - days	-	-	n/a	65	26	24	29	28	28	30	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a
Quantities of food imported in the Gaza Strip - metric tonnes⁴³														
Wheat - mT	450 mt/day/pop	-	5 686	7 517	10 159	3 348	7 244	6208	4622	5898	3673	5250	6194	5238
Rice	72 mt/day/pop	-	5	450	600	1 474	2 032	757	826	857	952	916	1979	549
Veg. oil	44 mt/day/pop	-	n/a	631	618	754	268	1848	1277	1519	579	963	2124	958
Sugar	111 mt/day/pop	-	75	808	1 057	2 669	2 471	2034	3213	3292	2952	8570	4208	4151
Veg. and fruits	-	-	438	438	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	0	n/a	n/a	n/a
Commodities	-	-	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	0	n/a	n/a	n/a
Total	-	-	n/a	9 844	12 434	8 263	12 015	10847	9938	11566	8156	9699	14505	10942
Fishing catch in the Gaza Strip⁴⁴														
		Total												
mT	2,323 (in 2005)	1604.2	158.6	130.0	0.0	46	120.97	247.8	291.76	687.0	309.5	219.0	316.5	99.6

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



Water & Sanitation

“The Human Right to Water entitles everyone to sufficient, safe, acceptable, physically accessible and affordable water for personal and domestic uses.”¹

	Baseline Pre-Intifada	Average 2006	Jan 07	Feb 07	Mar 07	Apr 07	May 07	Jun-07	Jul-07	Aug-07	Sep-07
West Bank per capita use of water per day - in litres⁴⁵											
Minimum	-	20.3	16	18	20	24	21	20	20	16	19
Maximum	-	207.2	241	147	147	152	152	138	147	220	192
Average	90	65.3	61	50	52	56	59	58	63	67	66
Gaza Strip - Per capita use of water per day - in litres⁴⁶											
Minimum	-	37.0	36	18	18	22	24	29	31	26	24
Maximum	-	116.5	107	71	71	76	76	79	84	75	81
Average	95	80.5	76	51	49	51	55	57	63	55	57
Price of tankered water in the West Bank in NIS⁴⁷											
Minimum	-	7.3	8	5	5	8	8	8	10	10	10
Maximum	-	22.5	17	17	21	17	20	23	23	30	27
Average	11.4	14.0	13	13	13	14	14	14	15	16	15
Price of tankered water in the Gaza Strip in NIS⁴⁸											
Minimum	-	35	35	35	35	35	35	35	35	35	35
Maximum	-	35	35	35	35	35	35	35	35	35	35
Average	-	35	35	35	35	35	35	35	35	35	35
Percentage of HH connected to water network paying the bills⁴⁹											
West Bank	-	35.5%	36.0%	35.0%	37.7%	36%	38%	35%	33.0%	36.0%	35.0%
Gaza Strip	-	4.2%	3.0%	2.0%	1.5%	2%	2%	2%	2.0%	2.0%	3.8%
Percentage of HH monthly income spent on sanitation services⁵⁰											
West Bank	-	2.2%	2.0%	3.0%	3.0%	3.0%	3.0%	3.0%	3.0%	3.0%	3.0%
Gaza Strip	-	4%	4.0%	4.0%	4.2%	4.0%	4.0%	4.0%	4.0%	4.0%	4.0%
Cost recovery of water bills by village councils and Municipalities in the West Bank⁵¹											
Minimum	-	0%	0%	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a
Maximum	-	16.7%	100%	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a
Average	75.0%	13.5%	47%	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a
Cost recovery of water bills by village councils and Municipalities in the Gaza Strip⁵²											
Minimum	-	n/a	0%	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a
Maximum	-	n/a	0%	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a
Average	75.0%	n/a	0%	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	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)

Entry of essential consumables (diesel, chlorine, spare parts, water pipe material, etc.) needed for the construction and rehabilitation of water and sanitation facilities in the Gaza Strip continue to be denied passage through Israeli crossing points. This situation has hindered the efficiency of water production and distribution facilities, and also the operations of sanitary land fills. Analysis of Water and Sanitation data for the month of September 2007 indicates the following trends:

- An average of 66 l/c/d was supplied in West Bank and 57 l/c/d in Gaza Strip.
- Compared to the average supply of August 2007, there is no significant change in the per capita use of water per day (August 2007: 67 l/c/d in West Bank and 55 l/c/d in Gaza Strip).
- The number of households connected to a water network and paying their bills has slightly decreased in

the West Bank (35% against 36% in August 2007 and an average of 35% for the year 2006) and increased in Gaza (3.8% against 2% in August 2007 and an average of 4% for the year 2006).

- The average price of water tankered to the unserved communities remains the same in the Gaza Strip (35 NIS per cubic meter) while there is no significant change in the West Bank (15 NIS per cubic meter against 16 NIS per cubic meter for the month of August). These averages do not show the wide range of prices, particularly in the West Bank, where people in remote areas may pay three times the average price. This is due to: remoteness, the extended distances that trucks must travel, due to road closures and to seasonal fluctuations.
- Since February 2007, there has been no change in the percentage of monthly income households spent on sanitation services.



Education

“All children deserve a quality education founded on a rights-based approach and rooted in the concept of gender equality.”^k

	# of Schools	Oct 06	Nov 06	Dec 06	Jan 07	Feb 07	Mar 07	Apr 07	May 07	Jun-07	Jul-07	Aug-07	Sep-07
Number of schools with at least one day of disruption - West Bank⁵³													
Bethlehem	100	100	100	n/a	0	0	0	85	106	1	n/a	n/a	0
Hebron	207	207	207	n/a	0	72	0	150	214	0	n/a	n/a	15
South Hebron	159	159	159	n/a	0	0	0	112	160	0	n/a	n/a	0
Jenin	113	113	113	n/a	0	0	0	92	116	1	n/a	n/a	0
Jericho	20	20	20	n/a	2 (curfew)	1	0	12	17	0	n/a	n/a	0
Jerusalem	37	37	37	n/a	0	0	0	All	n/a	0	n/a	n/a	0
Jerusalem suburb	55	55	55	n/a	0	0	0	16	56	0	n/a	n/a	0
Nablus	196	196	196	n/a	0	0	2	149	187	0	n/a	n/a	11
Qabatya	103	103	103	n/a	0	0	0	61	77	0	n/a	n/a	0
Qalqilia	67	67	67	n/a	0	0	0	10	69	0	n/a	n/a	0
Ramallah	159	159	159	n/a	0	0	2	113	161	0	n/a	n/a	0
Salfit	57	57	57	n/a	0	1	0	19	58	0	n/a	n/a	0
Tubas	-	-	-	n/a	0	0	n/a	n/a	39	0	n/a	n/a	n/a
Tulkarm	107	107	107	n/a	0	n/a	0	66	110	0	n/a	n/a	0
Total West Bank	1,380	100.0%	100.0%	n/a	0.14%	5.4%	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a
Number of schools with at least one day of disruption - Gaza Strip⁵⁴													
Gaza	151	0	0	n/a	0	n/a	0	80	152	0	n/a	n/a	n/a
Gaza North	60	0	0	n/a	0	n/a	0	39	66	0	n/a	n/a	n/a
Khan Younis	64	0	0	n/a	0	n/a	0	19	35	3	n/a	n/a	n/a
Middle Area	37	0	0	n/a	0	n/a	0	44	63	1	n/a	n/a	n/a
Rafah	34	0	34	n/a	0	n/a	0	29	37	0	n/a	n/a	n/a
Total Gaza Strip	346	0.0%	9.8%	n/a	0.0%	n/a	0.0%	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a

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

- The beginning of September was the official starting date for the 2007-08 scholastic year in the West Bank and Gaza Strip. The expected number of students enrolled is 1,104,858.
- September witnessed numerous incidents of school disruptions. The beginning of the school year coincided with the start of the Holy month of Ramadan for Muslims, many Jewish holidays and internal Palestinian political and social instability. As a result, tightened Israeli security measures, IDF operations and a few incidents of internal Palestinian unrest, mainly in Gaza, made the start of this school year difficult for many children.
- According to the MoEHE field unit, the education process was disrupted in 15 schools in Hebron due to curfews. Additionally, 11 schools were partially or fully disrupted in Nablus due to IDF military operations.
- The MoEHE field unit also reported that 35 teachers were obstructed by IDF soldiers at Zatar checkpoint in Nablus, and were told to return home, allegedly because they were under the age of 35.
- Due to the general shortage of construction materials in the Gaza Strip, further work on two PNA schools in Rafah, Mawasi Rafah School and Al Quds Secondary School for Girls, was halted. Rafah Educational Directorate decided to establish an afternoon shift in neighboring schools forcing students to commute. The same shortage is affecting the renovation of two other schools in Rafah; Kamal Odwan and Taha Hussein Schools.
- MoEHE - Gaza Strip is suffering from both a shortage of spare parts for its official vehicles and the non-delivery of purchased computers and other school equipment. This is affecting the overall operations of the MoEHE and its schools in the Gaza Strip.
- On 2 October, a serious incident of violence took place in one of UNRWA's schools. A teacher physically injured one of his students, allegedly due to a political dispute. The student was hospitalized and the teacher was dismissed. The dismissal of the teacher evoked a violent reaction from some students who set tyres on fire and threw stones at the school before storming it. A female teacher was injured in the unrest.



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	273	34.5	n/a	n/a	104.4	225	176
2007	220.4	57.4 (appeal)	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	29.8

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

The CAP

Sector	CAP 2006 - revised May 2006			CAP 2007 - revised May 2007			CAP 07 % Funded (as of 17 Oct)
	Requirements in \$ million	Number of Projects	Level of funding as of 30 Dec 06	Requirements in \$ million	Number of Projects	Funding in \$ million	
Agriculture	36.9	11	4%	11.3	14	1.8	13%
Coordination and support services	10.3	5	63%	14.2	7	15.7	104%
Economic Recovery and Infrastructure	154.3	14	53%	198.1	17	57.9	36%
Education	8.3	4	48%	9.1	4	7.3	84%
Food	96.4	7	100% +	149.7	8	101.2	69%
Health & Psychosocial	53.8	31	47%	35.7	30	24.9	62%
Protection	-	-	-	1.7	4	0.2	23%
Water and Sanitation	23.5	20	27%	35.0	19	3.2	9%
Shelter and non-food items	-	-	-	0.0	-	0.3	17%
Multi-Sector	-	-	-	0.0	-	0.1	100%
Sector not yet specified	0	-	-	-	-	7.8	-
Total	394.8	92	69%	454.7	103	220.4	52%

Source: OCHA, Financial Tracking System (FTS).

The PA operating budget

\$ million	2005		2006		2007	
	\$ million	%	\$ million	%	\$ million	%
Clearance revenues collected by Gol	894	32	344	19	1033	37
Domestic revenues	476	20	395	22	294	10
External finances for budgetary support	349	15	738	41	1000	35
Total other financing, incl. Palestinian Investment Fund Dividend	276	12	-34	-2	0	0
Net Lending	344	15	376	21	500	18
TOTAL	2339	100	1819	100	2827	100

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



Temporary International Mechanism (TIM)

\$ million	confirmed Pledges	Total disbursed as of 11 Oct 2007
TIM window 1/ ESSP	72.10	30
TIM window 2	170.40	128.37
TIM window 3	479.92	430.97
Total	722.42	589.34

Window II : "Window II of the TIM is entirely funded by the European Commission to ensure access to electricity, health care, and sanitation."

1) Emergency Fuel Supply

Sector	Number of facilities	Fuel received in million litres
Hospitals and Health Centers	45	1.4
Water System	103	2.1
Waste Water System	75	0.8
General Power Generators	6	0.8
Um Nasir Disaster Relief	29	0.01
Total	258	5.1
Total Cost in US\$ million as of 11 Oct 2007		5.5

After the partial repair of the Gaza power plant in November 2006, the TIM gradually phased out its emergency fuel distribution programme, which ended on 22 May 2007.

2) Support For Electricity production and distribution

	Cost in US\$ million as of 11 Oct 2007	Fuel received in million litres as of 11 Oct 2007
Gaza Power Plant	92.9	93
Electricity Production Gaza	8.0	
Electricity Distribution Gaza	5.0	
Electricity Distribution West Bank	12.1	
Total Cost in US\$ million as of 11 Oct 2007		117.9

3) Access to Quality Healthcare

Cost in US\$ million as of 11 Oct 2007	
East Jerusalem hospitals referral costs in US \$million	5.0

Window III : "Window III of the TIM is funded by the EC, EU Member States and other donors. It provides relief to approximately one million vulnerable and poor members of Palestinian society affected by the current crisis through direct cash assistance."

Type	Num of Beneficiaries	Num of Allowances Received	Total Amount Received in US\$ as of 11 Oct 2007
Low-income Healthcare provider workers	12000	14	69.7
Low-income public service providers	59000	12	263.3
Pensioners	6600	12	28.5
Social Hardship Cases Scheme for the Poor	36000	5	51.1
Social Hardship Cases Beneficiaries of Food for work/training programme	39000	1	9.6
Civil Police Employees	16000	2	8

Note the Civil police allowance is a one-time contribution provided by the Netherlands.

Source: Temporary International Mechanism, Implementation Progress Update. Based on figures provided by TIM; originally in Euro Currency.



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 Haq
Socio-Economic	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, ACPP, 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, ACPP, 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. This number includes Qassam rockets that detonated in the Gaza Strip.
13. Prior to July 07, the figure for mortars fired "in the Gaza Strip" included mortars known to be fired towards IDF troops in the Gaza Strip. Beginning in July 07, this figure is featured separately.
14. 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

15. 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.
16. 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.
17. 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.
18. 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.
19. 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.
20. 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.
21. 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.
22. 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.
23. Other imports into the Gaza Strip - total. Source: UNSCO. This indicators 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

24. 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”).
25. 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.
26. 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.
27. 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.
28. 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.
29. 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 look at in conjunction with changes in CPI to determine purchasing power.

Health

30. 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 (UHC), which are the main non-governmental providers of health services.
31. 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).
32. 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.
33. 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.
34. 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.
35. Number of new cases attending UNRWA community mental health services, MoH community and hospital mental health services and Gaza community Mental Health Program (GCMHP) in Gaza Strip and in the West Bank. Source: UNRWA, Epidemiology Department, West Bank and Gaza Strip Field Offices, MoH, Palestinian Health Information centre and PHC directorate in the West Bank and Gaza Strip compiled by WHO. 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.

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 have 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 loss 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. fected: 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. Retailed 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. Retailed 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. 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. 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. 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 Gol agreed under the 2002 Bertini Commitments to a fishing zone of 12 nautical miles. Fisherman 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.

Sources of Sector Quotations

- a. Protection of Civilians: Inter Agency Standing Committee (IASC)
- b. Child Protection: UNICEF
- c. Violence: Protocol I Additional to the Geneva Conventions, Article 51
- d. Access: Universal Declaration of Human Rights, Article 13
- e. Access: International Covenant on Civil and Political Rights, Article 12 (1)
- f. Socio Economic: Universal Declaration of Human Rights, Article 23
- g. Health: WHO
- h. Health: WHO Constitution, 1948
- i. Food Security: FAO/WHO/WFP
- j. Water and Sanitation: United Nations Committee on Economic, Social and Cultural Rights, General Comment No. 15 (November 2002)
- k. Education: UNICEF

End Notes

1. Humanitarian goods, in this context, consist of basic foods (e.g. rice, cooking oil, etc.), animal feed and medicines brought in by humanitarian agencies and distributed to a list of pre-identified beneficiaries. Commercial goods include basic foods (e.g. wheat flour), daily essentials (i.e. soap, diapers) and other food stuffs (e.g. frozen meats, fresh dairy) all imported by the private sector. These commodities are distributed through commercial outlets on the open market.
2. Kamal Edwan and Beit Hanun hospitals in north Gaza, Shifa and Pediatric hospitals in Gaza, Aqsa Martyrs hospital in the Mid Zone, Nasser Hospital in Khan Younis and Abu Yousif Najjar and Tal Sultan hospitals and North Gaza, Gaza, Khan Younis and Rafah PHC districts in Gaza Strip
3. North Gaza, Khan Younis, Rafah and 10 PHC centres in Gaza district.
4. Lisa Hajjar, *Courting Conflict: The Israeli Military Court System in the West Bank and Gaza*, (University of Californian Press, London, 2005) at p.3.