

2016

# HUMANITARIAN NEEDS OVERVIEW

PEOPLE IN NEED

2.3M

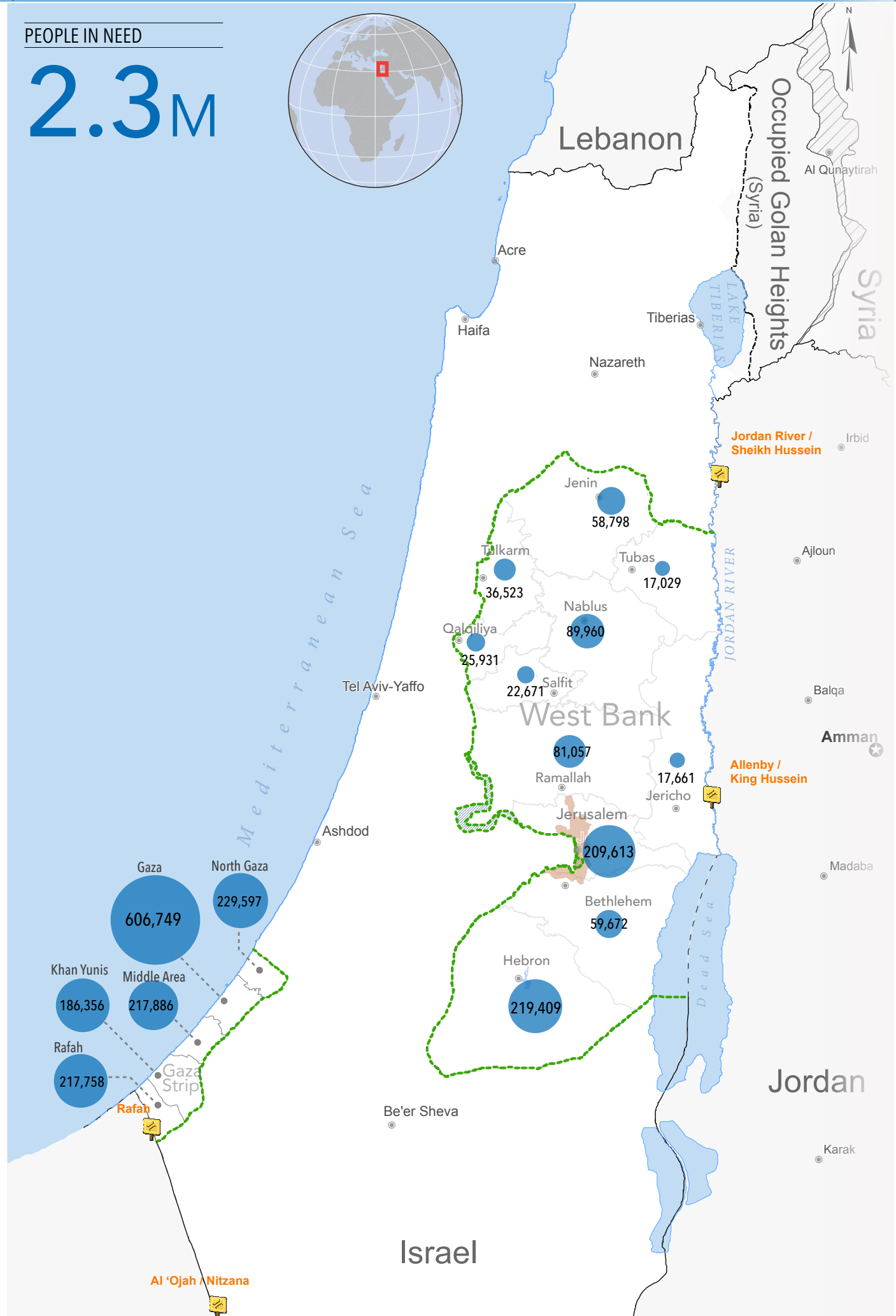
NOV 2015



**OCCUPIED  
PALESTINIAN  
TERRITORY**

PEOPLE IN NEED

2.3M



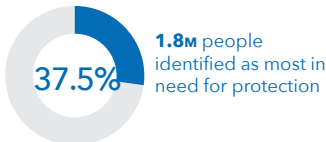
# HUMANITARIAN NEEDS



## PROTECTION OF CIVILIANS

Violations of international humanitarian and human rights law are a driver of severe protection threats against Palestinians and high levels of acute vulnerability across the Palestinian community.

All **4.8M** Palestinians in oPt are affected by a Protection risk



including:

**282k** children need psychosocial support and child protection interventions and **1,400** Palestinian boys arrested by security forces in the West Bank need legal support

**13,090** Palestinians injured; **112** killed by Israeli forces and settlers in the West Bank and Israel in 2015 (to end November) including perpetrators and alleged perpetrators. **20** killed in Gaza (conflict related)

**350k** people living in 67 communities in the West Bank vulnerable to settler violence

**294k** women need GBV services, including legal assistance, psychosocial support and health



## FORCED DISPLACEMENT

Thousands of Palestinians remain displaced as a consequence of the 2014 escalation in hostilities between Israel and Palestinian armed groups in the Gaza Strip. Demolition orders are also leading to forced displacements in the West Bank, particularly in Area C and East Jerusalem.

Approximately,

**95k** people still displaced in the Gaza Strip following the 2014 conflict

**11k** demolition orders in Area C of the West Bank affecting 13,000 structures - need for legal assistance and advocacy to prevent displacement of affected Palestinians

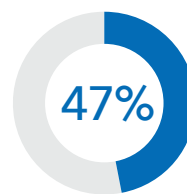
**8k** people live in 61 communities in the West Bank at high risk of forcible transfer - 65% are refugees



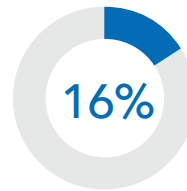
## EROSION OF RESILIENCE

High unemployment, low household incomes, the high cost of living (particularly for food) and the erosion of livelihoods has resulted in continued high levels of food insecurity in oPt.

**1.6M** people in oPt (27% of all households) are moderately to severely food insecure:



of households in the Gaza Strip



of households in the West Bank

**Food insecurity** across oPt is higher for:

- Female headed households at 32%
- Refugee households at 35%, rising to 39% in refugee camps.



## ACCESS TO ESSENTIAL SERVICES

Access to essential services including WASH, healthcare, education, energy and housing is severely restricted for Palestinians in the West Bank and Gaza Strip.

**40%** of Gaza's 1.8 m population receive just 5 to 8 hours of water supply every 3 days

**1.4M** people, including 794,000 refugees in camps face restricted access to basic healthcare, including reproductive health, emergency services, rehabilitation for people with disabilities and GBV referral

**593k** children need humanitarian interventions to access education, including children with disabilities and adolescents

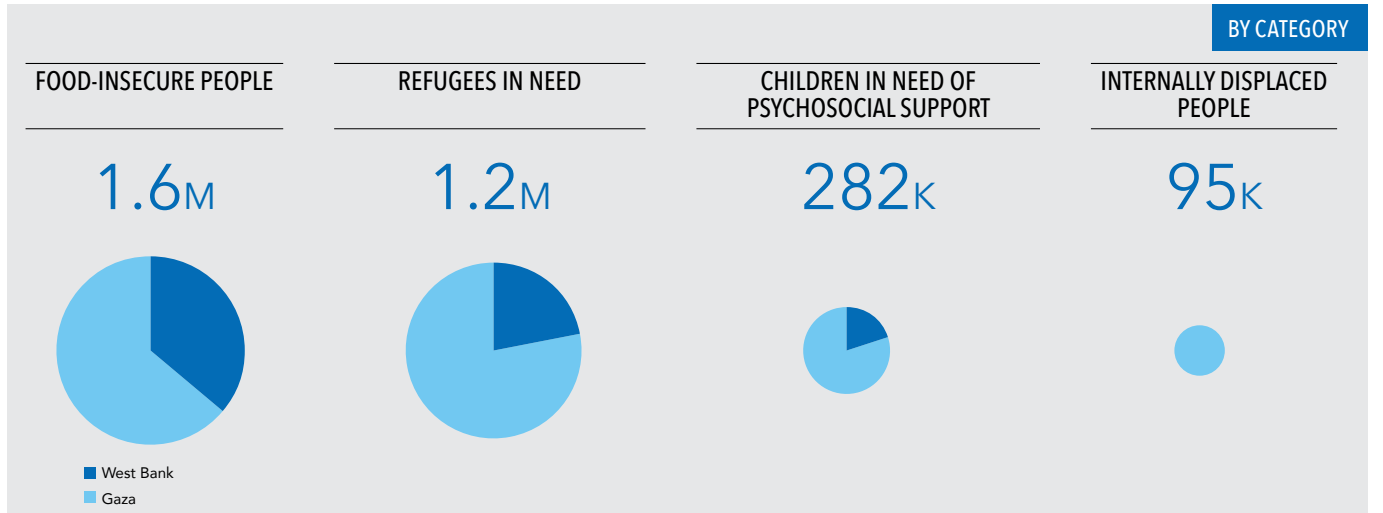
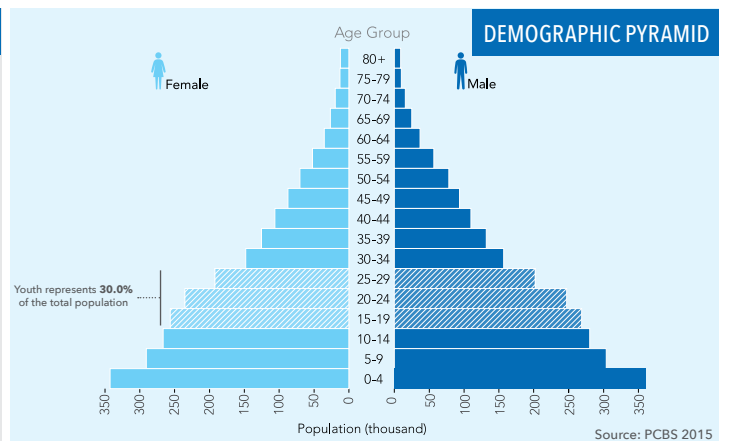
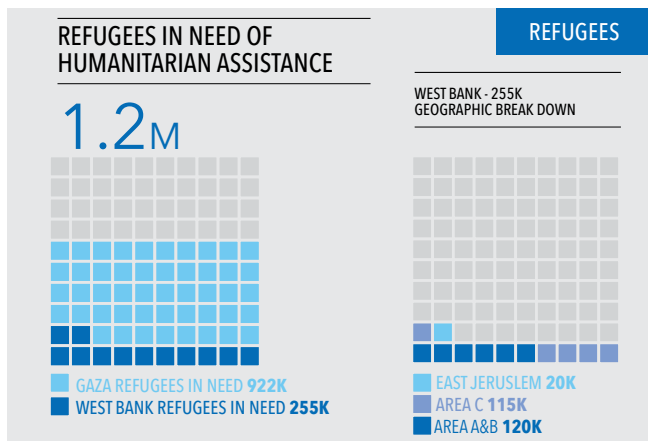
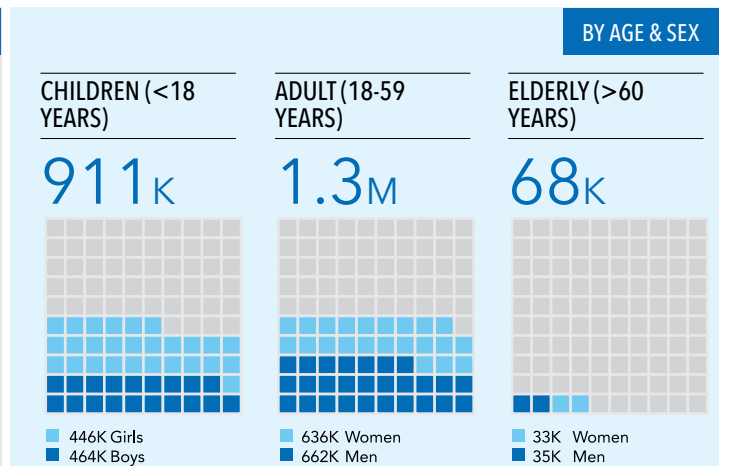
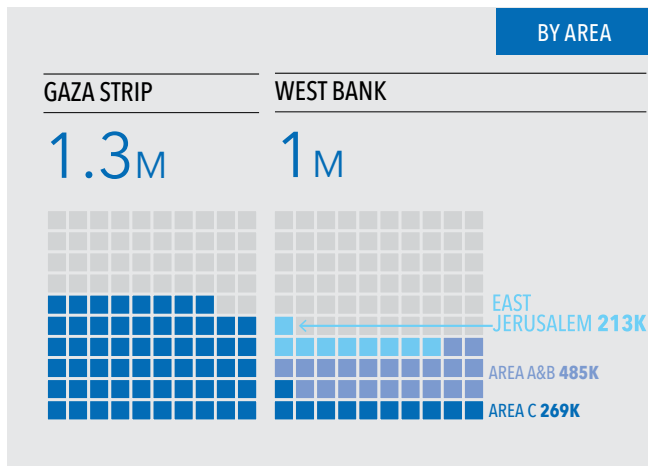
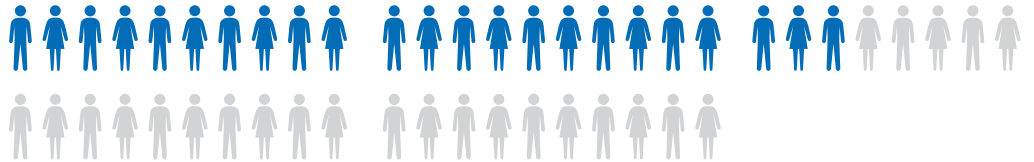
TOTAL POPULATION

4.8M



NUMBER OF PEOPLE WHO NEED HUMANITARIAN ASSISTANCE

2.3M



IMPACT OF THE

# CRISIS

## OVERVIEW

The humanitarian context of oPt is unique amongst today's humanitarian crises and remains directly tied to the impact of occupation, now approaching its 50th year. While needs surged in Gaza since mid-2014 following a 51-day escalation of hostilities and substantial residual requirements remain one year later, the underlying challenges remain unchanged across oPt. First, is **the need for protection measures** for at least 1.8 million Palestinians experiencing or at risk of (by way of illustration) conflict and violence, displacement, denial of access to livelihoods, administrative detention, psycho-social distress or exposure to explosive remnants of war. Second, is the need to ensure **delivery of essential services** such as water and health care for the most acutely vulnerable households currently denied access. And third is the need to **support vulnerable households to better cope** with the prolonged nature of the humanitarian crisis and the recurrent cycle of shocks, natural and manmade. These dynamics are significantly magnified in the Gaza context, given the restrictions associated with the eight year blockade. Across the oPt, one in two Palestinians, roughly 2.3 million people, will need some form of humanitarian assistance in 2016.

## GAZA STRIP

While the blockade on the Gaza Strip has continued, 2015 witnessed a relaxation of restrictions by the Israeli authorities and a related increase in the volume of people and goods moving to and from Gaza. On the other hand, the humanitarian impact of the blockade has been exacerbated by the almost continuous closure by Egypt of the Rafah passenger crossing since October 2014, leaving the vast majority of the 1.8 million Palestinians living in Gaza unable to move in or out. The eight-year long blockade and three major escalations of hostilities in six years have devastated public infrastructure while a chronic power deficit disrupts the supply of basic services and undermines already vulnerable living conditions. Negligible progress by the Government of National Consensus (GNC) in intra-Palestinian reconciliation has prevented 40,000 public sector employees from receiving their full salaries for over a year. While repairs to moderately damaged homes, schools and health facilities have proceeded quite quickly, the pace of reconstruction of 18,000 houses that were completely destroyed

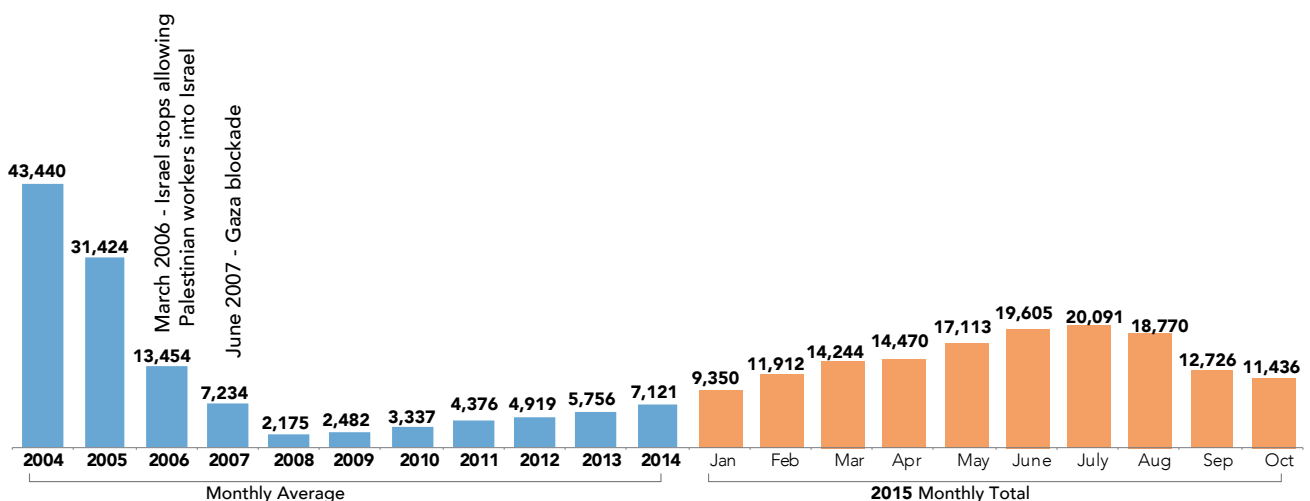
or severely damaged during last year's hostilities has been very slow. Donor disbursements of pledges made at the October 2014 Cairo Gaza reconstruction conference were at only 35 per cent by August 2015. Poverty (39 per cent), unemployment (41.5 per cent, exceeding 60 per cent among youth) and food insecurity (47 per cent) remain high. Per capita GDP in Gaza in 2015 is 72 per cent below the level it was in 1994.

A total of 1.6 million Palestinians in the oPt are considered moderately or severely food insecure according to the latest Socio-Economic and Food Security survey (SEFSec)

### Protection

Although the 2014 ceasefire has held pervasive insecurity and the continuous threat of violence remains. Accountability for the violations by all sides during the 2014 escalation of hostilities remains an urgent priority.

## EREZ : NUMBER OF CROSSINGS FROM GAZA INTO ISRAEL



Although casualties from conflict in Gaza significantly declined in 2015 compared to 2014, the number of Palestinian fatalities increased sharply from October, in particular when demonstrations in the access restricted areas (ARA) evolved into violent clashes with Israeli forces. Twenty Palestinians were killed and 966 were injured by Israeli forces in 2015 to end October. Explosive Remnants of War (ERWs) continue to pose a serious threat; between the end of the 2014 conflict and the end of October 2015, 15 Palestinians have died and 91 were injured in ERW-related incidents. Other IDP protection concerns include an increase in the incidence of gender-based violence (GBV), mostly affecting women, adolescent girls and children. Preliminary findings from an IDP survey of two of the five governorates indicate that 73 per cent of households perceive an increase in the incidence of GBV in Gaza. Around 225,000 children still require psychosocial support and child protection services, and over 33,000 of the most vulnerable children are in need of individual child protection case management.

### Displacement

No major new displacement was recorded in Gaza during the course of 2015. However, an estimated 95,000 people remain displaced as a result of the 2014 hostilities, of whom 78,000 continue to need temporary support. The Gaza Reconstruction Mechanism (GRM), agreed between the Israeli and Palestinian governments in the aftermath of the 2014 hostilities, has continued to alleviate some of the negative impacts of the blockade on reconstruction efforts. In May 2015 a new agreement in the context of the GRM was reached (the “residential stream”) allowing the import of materials for the reconstruction of nearly 10% of the totally destroyed homes, as of November. Reconstruction efforts have been also facilitated by Israel’s lifting of the restrictions on the import of aggregates, which were removed from the list of “dual use” items. The outstanding affected and displaced population, 98,000 families (590,000 individuals) are living in damaged houses, rental units, with host families, in caravans, or tents and makeshift shelters. Restrictions on the import of goods identified by the Israeli authorities as having a “dual use” (i.e. potentially a military as well as civilian purpose) continue to impede access to temporary shelter solutions at the required speed and scale

Currently 95,000 people (over 17,000 families) remain displaced in the Gaza Strip as a result of the 2014 conflict, three quarters of whom are also UNRWA registered refugees. Data analyzed on 8,123 households so far has indicated that displaced families are resorting to a number of negative coping mechanisms, including borrowing money (84 percent) or buying food on credit (86 percent). Almost half of families surveyed have decreased their food consumption; over two thirds indicated that they have insufficient domestic water. Over half the families surveyed also reported an increased need for psychosocial support, while 75 percent perceive an increase in GBV rates since the conflict. Shelter is the main issue for many families, and the upcoming winter weather will increase the vulnerability of displaced families

### Israel’s views on the Gaza blockade

The Government of Israel views the access restrictions it imposes on the Gaza Strip as essential security measures addressing a range of serious threats to Israel’s population, including the smuggling of weapons, the firing of rockets and the digging of offensive tunnels. These threats have materialized in recent years, resulting in casualties, damage and disruption of life. Israel has expressed its commitment to facilitate the provision of humanitarian assistance to Gaza, and to further ease the access restrictions upon the handover of responsibility over the crossings from Hamas to the Palestinian Authority.

and hampers reconstruction efforts profoundly. A recent reduction in the thickness of permissible wood from 5 cm to 1 cm has had a direct and negative impact on temporary housing solutions for IDPs.

### Access to essential services

The blockade and periodic hostilities have inflicted large-scale destruction on Gaza’s economy, productive assets and infrastructure, while the Israeli-imposed “dual use” restrictions on the entry of equipment and spare parts have impeded basic service delivery. The continuing non-payment of salaries to over 40,000 employees of the de-facto authorities since April 2014 has also affected running and operating costs of ministries and their ability to provide basic services. A chronic energy crisis, with power outages reaching 12-16 hours a day, also impairs service delivery, students’ educational outcomes, the functioning of hospitals and medical equipment and the operation of more than 280 water and wastewater facilities.

Some 23 items required for WASH projects have also been included in the “dual use” list, impacting the delivery of services and public health. Eight years of blockade and movement restrictions on people and materials, including medical resources, has led to a serious deterioration in the availability and quality of health services, compounded by Egyptian restrictions on the Rafah crossing since July 2013.

Shelter needs are compounded by an accumulated, chronic shortage of over 75,000 housing units even before the destruction from the escalation in hostilities in 2014. This chronic shortage has resulted in overcrowding, increases in rental prices, inadequate accommodation and associated health and protection concerns. As a result, 168,000 (or 28,000 households) remain vulnerable to harsh weather conditions and protection concerns due to their inadequate housing conditions. Periodic conflicts and the destruction of educational facilities that ensued have affected all 462,770 basic, secondary and kindergarten students in Gaza, compromising their access to a safe, child-friendly environment and causing a range of psychosocial effects.

### Erosion of resilience

The sweeping Israeli ban on the exit of goods from Gaza to markets in the West Bank and Israel, in place since the imposition of the blockade, has been eased. As a result, the

volume of outgoing truckloads during 2015 saw a five-fold increase compared to 2014. However, despite this improvement, the volume of exports and transfers in 2015 constitutes only 10% per cent of the equivalent figure during the first five months of 2007, prior to the imposition of the blockade. This is due to a range of factors that have systematically undermined Gaza's productive capacity, including the remaining Israeli restrictions on the movement of goods to and from Gaza and on access to agricultural land and fishing waters. These factors discourage investment and perpetuate high levels of unemployment, food insecurity and aid dependency.<sup>1</sup>

In Gaza, 47 per cent of households face food insecurity, characterized by limited economic access to food because of high prices and limited income opportunities, resulting in low resilience and high vulnerability to shocks. Preliminary findings from an IDP survey in Gaza reveal worrying trends in terms of food consumption and food diversity, indicating significant levels of food insecurity. Inadequate investments in agricultural rehabilitation and in the slow reconstruction of essential productive assets destroyed during the 2014 conflict have resulted in increased dependency on short term assistance to support food consumption. Moreover in 2015, widespread outbreaks of Avian Influenza severely affected the poultry sector, further eroding agricultural-based livelihoods, increasing dependency on food imports and raising consumers' concerns about food safety. Also of concern is the potential impact of Egypt's recent flooding of the illegal tunnels under its border with Gaza on infrastructure and agricultural livelihoods.

### WEST BANK

Palestinians in the West Bank continue to be subject to a complex system of control, including physical (the Barrier, checkpoints, roadblocks) and bureaucratic barriers (permits, closure of areas) which restrict their right to freedom of movement. The expansion of settlements, which are illegal under international law, restrictions on access to land and natural resources and ongoing displacement due to demolitions in particular, continue. Israeli policies including the planning regime in place, continue to curtail the ability of Palestinians in Area C and East Jerusalem to plan their communities and build homes and infrastructure. The result is further fragmentation of the West Bank.

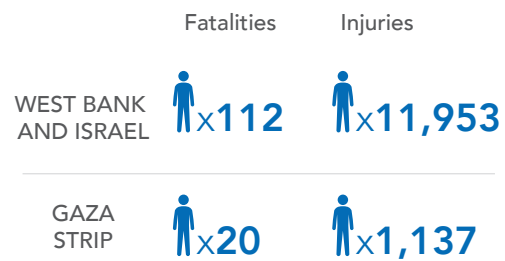
The escalation of violence in October throughout the West Bank led to a sharp rise in casualties from conflict. Security considerations notwithstanding, concerns exist over reports of

excessive use of force by Israeli forces. There has been a sharp increase in arrest and detentions including of children, raising concerns that such detention is not used only as a measure of last resort, as required by international law. This deterioration must also be seen in the context of the prolonged occupation, continuing settlement expansion and lack of accountability, including for settler violence.

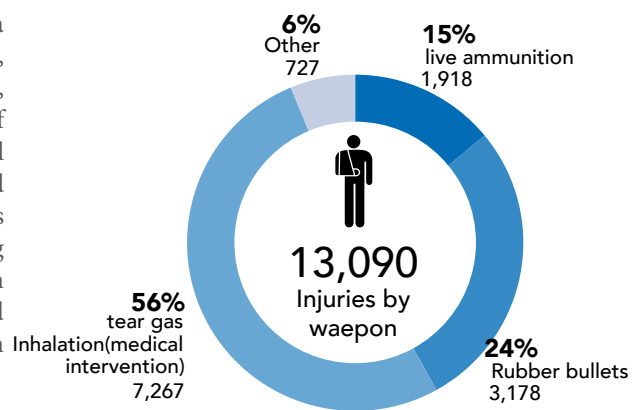
### Protection

Palestinians in the West Bank continue to be subject to threats to their lives, physical safety and liberty from policies and practices related to the Israeli occupation, including settler violence. A surge in violence in October, which spread to Israel and to the Gaza Strip, left through the end of

#### PALESTINIAN CASUALTIES IN THE OPT AND ISRAEL JANUARY TO END NOVEMBER 2015



#### PALESTINIAN INJURIES IN THE OPT AND ISRAEL JANUARY TO END NOVEMBER 2015



Source: OCHA

### Escalation in violence

Heightened tensions during September 2015 in the Old City of Jerusalem, increased significantly from 1 October and spread throughout the oPt and Israel, characterized by widespread confrontations with Israeli forces, alongside almost daily attacks on Israelis. Israeli forces have increased restrictions on movement and access of Palestinians, particularly in the Hebron Governorate and in East Jerusalem, which have disrupted access to services and livelihoods. The Israeli Security Cabinet also approved a series of additional measures including expediting punitive demolitions and revoking the residency rights of perpetrators of attacks that may amount to collective punishment. Other measures of concern include imprisonment and fines imposed on minors and their parents as a result of stone throwing.

November, 17 Israelis and 103 Palestinians dead, a significant number of the latter in connection with attacks they were carrying out, and others in demonstrations, clashes, and search and arrest raids by Israeli forces. These clashes saw a further 1,618 Palestinians injured by live ammunition and 2,574 by rubber bullets. Arrests and detentions, including of children, similarly soared. Since the beginning of 2015 through the end of November, 132 Palestinian deaths, including perpetrators and alleged perpetrators of attacks, and 13,090 injuries (including as a result of tear gas inhalation requiring medical treatment) have been recorded primarily at the hands of Israeli forces during demonstrations, clashes and search and- arrest operations.

Those most in need of protection include Palestinian Bedouin and herder communities at risk of forcible transfer, forced evictions and destruction of property in Area C, half of whom are minor; those affected by demolitions and revocation of their residency rights in East Jerusalem; communities affected by settler violence; all 19 refugee camps and particularly camps such as Aida, Shu'fat and Jalazone remain particularly vulnerable with 163 search operations from 1 January to mid-October 2015. Children are particularly vulnerable, with attacks against education almost tripling from 2013 to 2014, affecting almost 25,000 children across the West Bank, including East Jerusalem. The number of Palestinian children in detention at end-September is estimated to be 171. Policies which undermine the Palestinian presence in East Jerusalem are also being monitored, including revocations of residency status; demolitions and evictions; settlement building; and Barrier construction, in addition to discriminatory laws and practices against East Jerusalem residents.

### Displacement

In the West Bank (including East Jerusalem), forced displacement is caused by multiple factors, including the destruction of homes and livelihoods, forced evictions and relocation plans, settler violence, movement and access restrictions and, particularly in East Jerusalem, settler takeover of homes, lack of civil documentation and revocation of residency rights. Over 7,000 Bedouins and herders, the majority of whom are refugees, living in 46 communities in the central West Bank are at risk of forcible transfer due to a "relocation" plan by the Israeli authorities, while other communities such as Susiya and those of Massafer Yatta in the southern West Bank are also at high risk of displacement. Over 42,000 people living in communities in Area C and East Jerusalem also suffer from shelter inadequacy and weather-related hazards, aggravated by the threat of demolition and forcible transfer.

### Israel's views on demolitions and displacement

According to the Israeli authorities, the demolition of Palestinian property in Area C of the West Bank is a legitimate law enforcement measure used against structures built without the required permit. They also assert that the relocation of Bedouin communities established without permit proposed in this context will improve the living conditions of their residents.

In Area C and East Jerusalem, the planning and zoning regime applied by the Israeli authorities makes it virtually impossible for Palestinian residents to obtain building permits. Between 2010 and 2014, Palestinians submitted 2,020 applications for building permits in Area C, of which only 33 were approved. An estimated 13,000 Palestinian-owned structures, including homes, are currently under threat of pending demolition orders. In East Jerusalem, where 35 per cent of land has been expropriated for Israeli settlements only 13 per cent of the municipal area is zoned for Palestinian construction, within which Palestinians have the possibility of obtaining building permits, and most of this is already built-up.

To end-October 2015, the Israeli authorities demolished or dismantled 467 structures, displacing 555 people, at least 200 of whom were refugees. Of these demolitions, 403 were in Area C – of which 84 were donor funded. Thirty-six WASH structures have also been destroyed in Area C in 2015 which is a contributing factor to displacement.

### Access to essential services

Palestinian movement throughout certain areas of the West Bank, including into East Jerusalem, remains restricted by physical and administrative measures, undermining access to basic services, as well as hindering the ability of humanitarian organizations to deliver relief. The Palestinian Authority continues to have only limited access to schools in Area C and East Jerusalem. In East Jerusalem, building restrictions and impeded access to education as a result of checkpoints and the Barrier, result in delays for students, and difficulties in recruiting teachers and staff from the West Bank, resulting in high dropout rates (estimated to be as high as 40 per cent after the 10<sup>th</sup> grade).

Vulnerable communities in Area C, Barrier-affected areas and East Jerusalem peripheries, including non-camp refugees face restricted access to basic health care due to the actions of Israeli security forces and settler violence; restrictions on the freedom of movement of patients, health staff and medical students; lack of residency rights; and shortage of health staff and medicines. The permit regime, checkpoints and the Barrier also impact those patients who require care at the six East Jerusalem hospitals which provide specialized health services unavailable elsewhere in the oPt.

Due to the near impossibility of obtaining permits to develop water infrastructure, around 70 per cent of the Palestinian communities in Area C are not connected to a water network. Inadequate water for drinking, domestic consumption and for livestock for un-served and under-served communities has impacted their overall resilience, forcing them to buy water at unaffordable rates.

### DEMOLITION AND DISPLACEMENT IN WEST BANK 1st January to 31 October 2015



**403** structures demolished in Area C  
**64** in East Jerusalem



**486** people displaced Area C including 277 children  
**69** in East Jerusalem



### Erosion of resilience

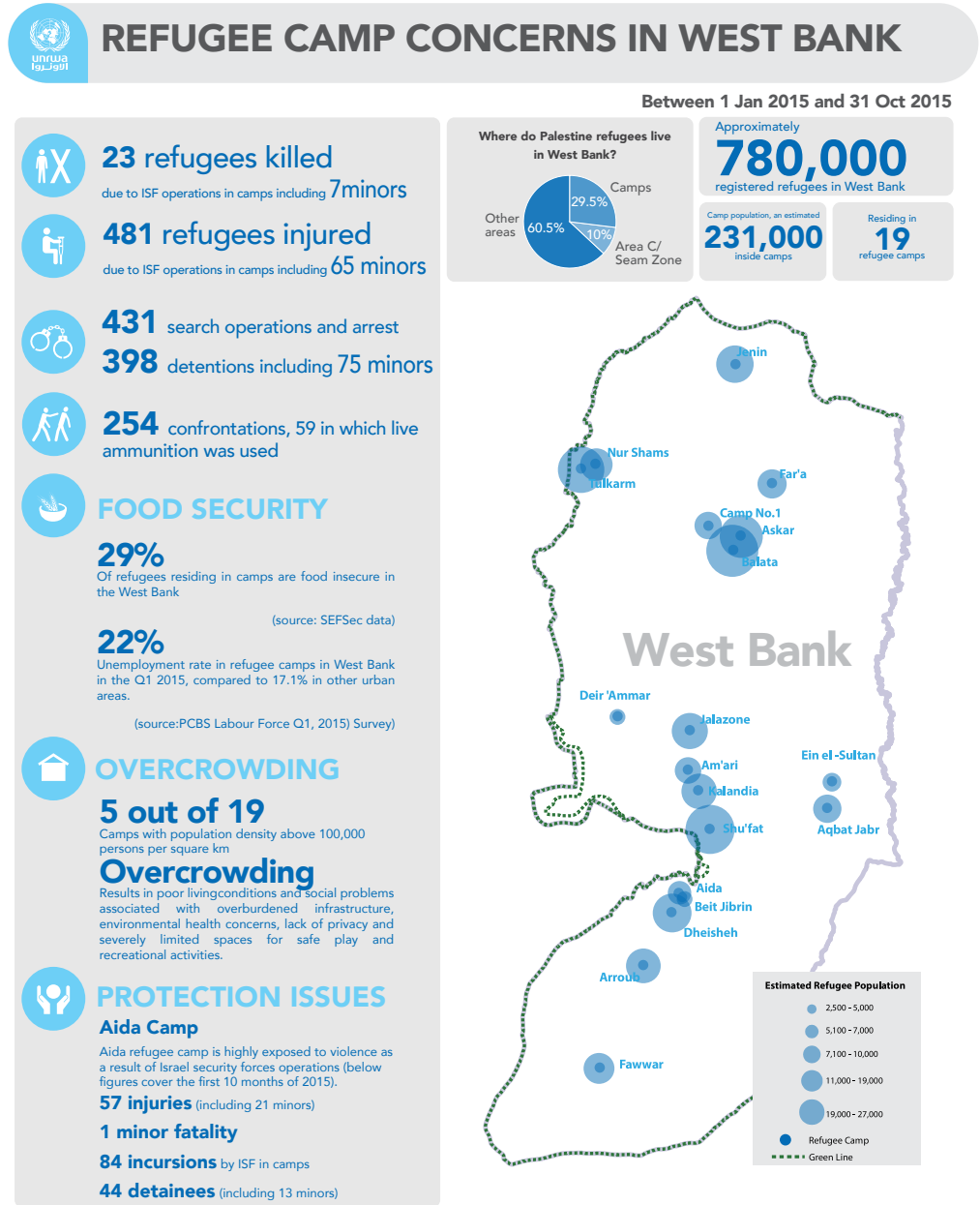
A total of 16 per cent of households are considered moderately or severely food insecure in the West Bank, with low purchasing power and limited resilience. Refugees residing in camps represent the highest level of food insecurity at 29 per cent, followed by the rural population with 20 per cent and 14 per cent of the urban population.

Livelihoods are undermined by restrictions on access to natural resources, services, and stable and efficient markets despite the obligations of the occupying power to ensure that the population of the occupied territory can lead a normal life, as much as possible, and enjoy their right to an adequate standard of living.<sup>1</sup> The closure regime also severely restricts the movement of people and goods, interrupts economic activity and restricts access to resources for agriculture-based livelihoods, increasing dependency on the Israeli market and on short term aid. Palestinian farmers now need special permits or prior coordination arrangements to access their farming land in the “Seam Zone” between the Barrier and the Green Line, as well as in the vicinity of settlements. Livelihoods are particularly affected in Area C, which holds the most significant natural resources available for Palestinian

development, as well as the bulk of Palestinian agricultural and grazing land. Despite this, restrictions prevent almost half a million dunums (50,000 hectares) of land suitable for agriculture in Area C from being cultivated by Palestinians. The demolition of homes and livelihood structures, as well

### Palestine Refugees

The 19 refugee camps throughout the West Bank were established as temporary tented cities for Palestine refugees driven from their homes due to the 1948 conflict, and who remain in forced exile to this day. Today, these camps have developed into urban areas home to more than 230,000 people, with the population in each camp varying from 2,500 to 27,000. The camps are characterized by humanitarian needs related to overcrowding, high levels of unemployment and food insecurity, and ongoing violence related to ISF incursions in the camps.



as confiscations and restrictions on the maintenance of productive agricultural assets, also undermine rural livelihoods and farmers’ investments, impacting the resilience of rural communities.

1. See Article 43 of the Hague Regulations of 1907 and Article 11 of the International Covenant on Economic, Social and Cultural Rights.

## GENDER BASED VULNERABILITIES

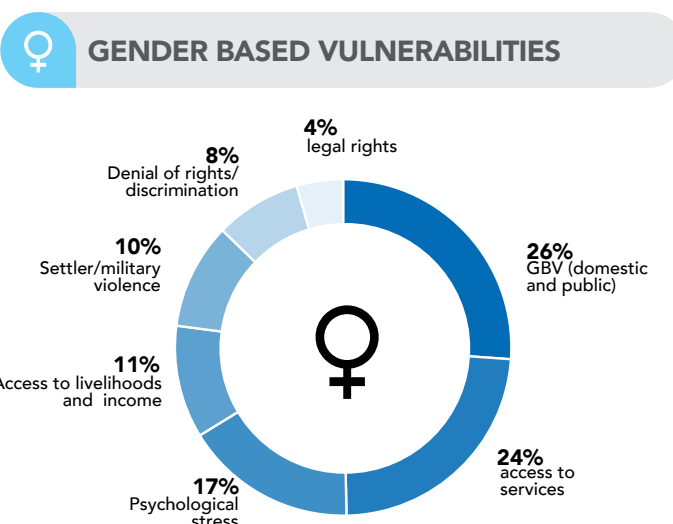


Gender roles and relations in Palestinian society, as well as Israeli policies in the context of its occupation, are key determinants of access of women, men, boys and girls to resources, opportunities, and resilience. As a result, the impact of the conflict on particular groups of the population intersects with a range of gender based vulnerabilities. The intra-Palestinian divide and the limited authority exercised by the Palestinian authority in Gaza, Area C and East Jerusalem also compounds gaps in legal protection for women living in those areas. A gender analysis of needs resulting from the protracted crises in oPt across clusters, points to five types of vulnerabilities that generate differentiated needs of men, women, boys and girls and present different barriers to accessing humanitarian assistance and protection. These include:

- Patterns of protection violations:** Young Palestinian males are most vulnerable to military or settler violence, while females are more vulnerable to domestic and social violence especially in heightened crises. Israeli military operations and settler violence targeting homes, livelihoods or people have a high toll on the psychosocial wellbeing of women and children. Conflict related violence and barriers on movement also have an additional impact on women and girls including heightened restrictions on women's movement and access to education and work outside of the home. The impact of house demolitions and displacement on women and girls requires special attention. Displaced women and girls lose the space where they enjoy privacy, autonomy, social networks and small scale livelihoods and is the center of their lives. Displaced families often end up living in overcrowded and unsuitable conditions, face disruptions in their access to basic services, family separation and are often forced to resort to negative coping mechanisms.
- Livelihood related vulnerabilities:** There are significant gender gaps between Palestinian men and women in labour force participation and unemployment rates. Women's livelihood activities are highly vulnerable and generally concentrated in unpaid and informal work. Women's limited access to resources and markets increase their vulnerability to poverty, food insecurity, and malnutrition especially amongst female farmers and herders, female refugees, widows, female heads of households and victims of gender based violence.

- Vulnerabilities related to gender division of labour:** Women's reproductive role renders women more affected by the restricted access to basic services such as WASH, health and shelter especially given their care responsibilities to other household members including children, elderly, and the sick and injured. Women often bear the burden of restricted access to basic services and needs with implications for their livelihoods, health, and time.
- Preexisting discriminatory norms** expressed in biases in women's legal rights around housing and land rights, family law; social practices such as early marriage, restricted mobility on women and girls. Palestinian women, whether in Gaza, West Bank, Area C and East Jerusalem, do not have adequate legal protection to address those biases especially with regard to family rights, family unification and violence against women given the existing legislative vacuum. Often, women with disabilities tend to suffer from a double discrimination in accessing services.
- Vulnerabilities related to the possibility of gender bias in the design of humanitarian assistance** that may exclude particular groups from accessing needed assistance (e.g. shelter and agriculture interventions that require land titles as a criteria for support, WASH projects that do not ensure consultation and participation of women, Cash for Work projects that are designed for men, education projects that do not secure access of children with disabilities, omission of female headed households from priorities of humanitarian assistance, provision of GBV services, etc.).

The current HNO demonstrates increased effort to use sex disaggregated data and address data gaps in order to enable humanitarian partners to have a refined identification of needs to address those various vulnerabilities and ensure an equitable and effective humanitarian response.



**BREAKDOWN OF**

# PEOPLE IN NEED

An estimated 2.3 million people, including 1.2 million refugees are in need of humanitarian assistance in the oPt, mostly in the Gaza Strip, Area C of the West Bank, and East Jerusalem.























The largest number of people in need are in the Gaza Strip (1.3 million people or 70 percent of Gaza’s population) and there is a high scale of need across most sectors. The Gaza caseload includes 95,000 people still displaced from the 2014 conflict. The highest number of people in need as a proportion of the total population of that area (90 percent) are in Area C of the West Bank where protection and health needs are particularly high. For East Jerusalem, the greatest need is for protection interventions – of which some 80 percent of the East Jerusalem population is in need.

NUMBER OF PEOPLE IN NEED

2.3M

BREAKDOWN BY SECTOR (MILLIONS)

CLUSTER	Gaza Strip	WB (AREA C)	WB (Areas A,B)	WB(East Jerusalem)	People in need of assistance
 Protection	1.03	0.27	0.34	0.21	1.8M 
 WASH	1.31	0.11	0.31	0.00	1.7M 
 Food Security	1.05	0.07	0.50	0.01	1.6M 
 Health/ Nutrition	1.16	0.25	0.00	0.00	1.4M 
 Shelter and NFIs	0.94	0.05	0.00	0.01	1.0M 
 Education	0.46	0.05	0.01	0.07	0.6M 

GOVERNORATE						
	EDUCATION	FOOD SECURITY	HEALTH/ NUTRITION	SHELTER AND NFIS	WASH	PROTECTION
 BETHLEHEM	3.4K	53.0K	21.8K	3.1K	2.7K	59.7K
 HEBRON	19.9K	202.0K	43.1K	11.4K	137.9K	218.1K
 JENIN	2.4K	53.0K	21.4K	3.2K	14.0K	58.8K
 JERICHO	0.2K	16.0K	7.3K	4.8K	9.9K	14.6K
 JERUSALEM	9.7K	50.0K	80.6K	11.4K	95.6K	209.6K
 NABLUS	1.3K	88.0K	7.2K	5.2K	5.0K	77.6K
 QALQILIYA	2.4K	19.0K	9.5K	1.8K	0.2K	25.9K
 RAMALLAH	4.0K	37.0K	14.5K	5.7K	34.1K	81.1K
 SALFIT	1.2K	8.0K	15.7K	1.3K	3.8K	22.7K
 TUBAS	2.6K	16.0K	7.2K	6.2K	3.6K	17.0K
 TULKARM	1.3K	32.0K	25.5K	1.4K	5.2K	32.6K
 NORTH GAZA	90.4K	210.0K	229.6K	172.9K	195.0K	203.4K
 GAZA	159.8K	366.0K	399.4K	305.6K	606.7K	522.3K
 KHAN YUNIS	92.7K	178.0K	217.9K	143.0K	172.4K	75.5K
 MIDDLE AREA	70.0K	127.0K	168.3K	186.4K	117.0K	88.3K
 RAFAH	49.9K	145.0K	143.3K	135.2K	217.8K	141.5K
	<b>0.6M</b>	<b>1.6M</b>	<b>1.4M</b>	<b>1.0M</b>	<b>1.7M</b>	<b>1.8M</b>

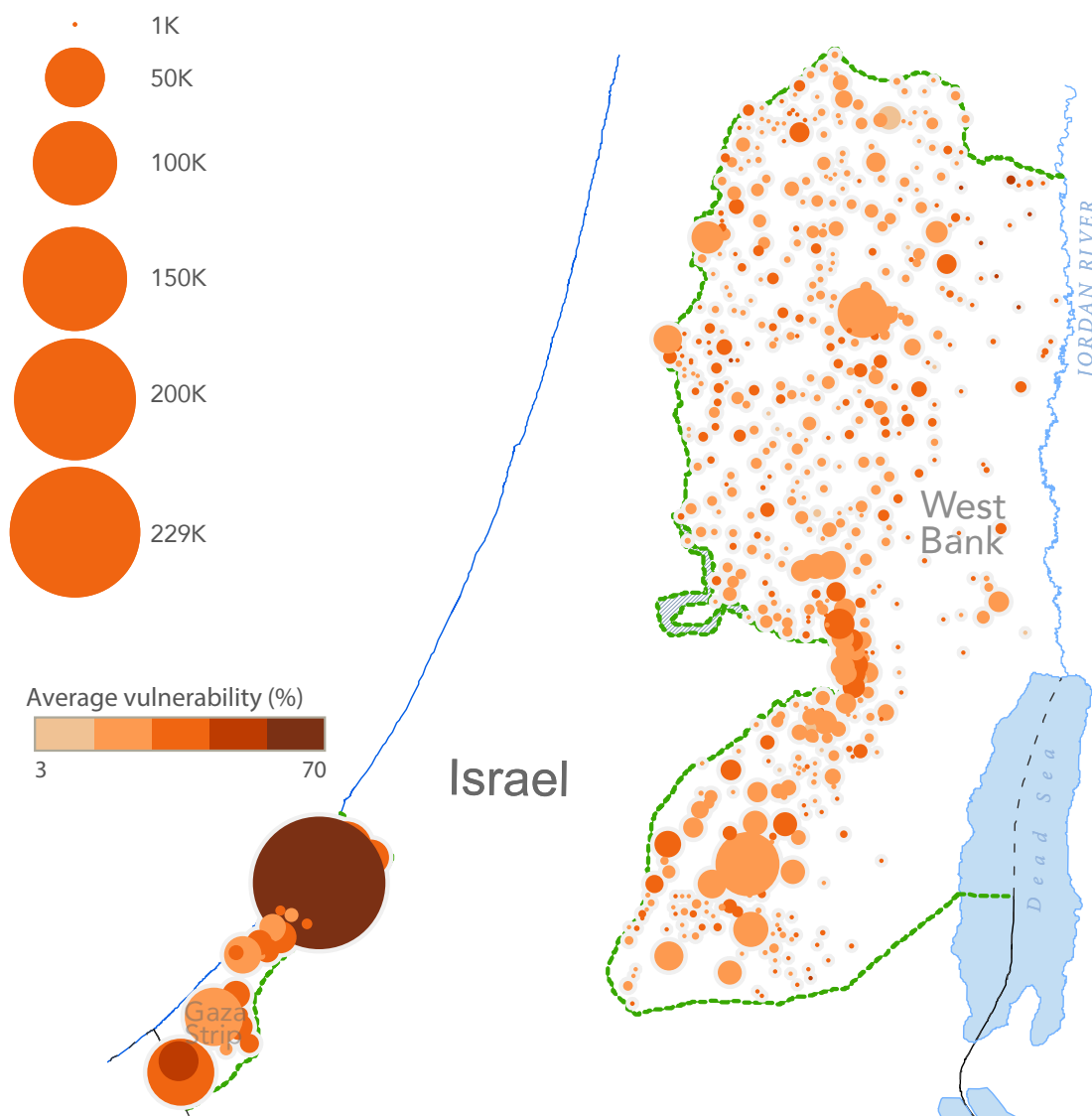
Food Security numbers of people are elaborated from the SEFSec survey, which is a statistical exercise providing percentages of households. Therefore a margin of approximation is factored in when extracting absolute figures. The aim of the SEFSec is to indicate the magnitude and the trend of the food insecurity problem rather than providing the exact counting of people in need.

## SEVERITY OF

## NEED

**Overall severity map:** is based on a vulnerability ranking average provided in the Vulnerability Profile Project 2015 (VPP+). Cluster questions were given weights where individual communities were ranked based on the level of vulnerability (high, medium and low). To produce the overall severity map, the individual vulnerability ranking of each cluster was added up and averaged. To give a more realistic reflection of the vulnerability level, the map was normalized by the population in need for each community.

*N.B. the map should not be used to quantify the people in need. It provides a proxy indicator of the geographic dispersion of vulnerability.*

**For more information:**

<https://public.tableau.com/profile/publish/Overallvulnerabilityrankingatthecommunitylevel/Dashboard4#!/publish-confirm>

**KEY**

# ISSUES (as seen by the affected population)

**Top priority problems/issues:** Key informants in 244 localities (44%) identified poverty and unemployment as priority problems that require response and underlying factors to needs in the oPt. 16% identified planning and zoning as a second underlying factor, followed by access restriction (12%) and settler violence (10%).

- Access
- Military operations
- Settler violence
- incursions/arrest campaigns
- IDPs resettlement/living in temporary shelters
- Demolition and displacement
- Planning and zoning restrictions
- Lack of humanitarian space
- Poverty and unemployment
- Other



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## ANNEX I: INFORMATION BY SECTOR

-  Protection
-  Food Security
-  Shelter
-  Water, Sanitation and Hygiene
-  Health & Nutrition
-  Education
-  Disaster Risk Reduction

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## ANNEX II: INFORMATION SOURCES AND METHODOLIGIES

## ANNEX III: INFORMATION GAPS AND ASSESSMENT PLANNING

## PROTECTION

### NUMBER OF PEOPLE IN NEED



### OVERVIEW

**Conflict and lack of accountability:** Accountability for the violations by all sides of the conflict during the 2014 hostilities remains an urgent priority. Although, overall, casualties significantly declined compared to 2014, the situation deteriorated sharply in October in East Jerusalem and the wider West Bank, also spreading to Gaza. Between January and 31 October 2015 89 Palestinians have been killed in the oPt (69 in West Bank and 20 in Gaza) and 9,118 injured (8,152 in West Bank and 966 in Gaza) by Israeli forces in the context of demonstrations, clashes, search and arrest operations, knife attacks, incursions and attacks in the ARA. Of these, 64 fatalities and 7,388 injuries occurred in October.

In the West Bank, settler violence is a key concern which has led to five Palestinian deaths and 111 injuries. Livelihoods have been targeted too with 11,209 Palestinian-owned trees and saplings (including 5,000 saplings discovered damaged on 1 January 2015) damaged in 205 incidents of settler violence in the first ten months of the year. The Israeli government's failure to protect Palestinians and their property from settler attacks and to hold settlers accountable for their crimes has created a culture of impunity in the West Bank which fuels further attacks.

In Gaza, the presence of ERWs poses a serious threat to life, impeding efforts of IDPs to return home and restricting access to farmland and public spaces. From August 2014 to October 2015, 15 people were killed and 91 injured by ERWs (plus an 74 additional ERW-related injuries from a May 2015 incident, which were not able to be verified due to access restrictions). 39 of the verified casualties were children. Fifty-five per cent of surveyed people in Gaza reported that they had never received risk education,<sup>2</sup> underlining the ongoing need for awareness-raising, especially with children.

**Forced Displacement:** In the West Bank, including East Jerusalem, forced displacement is triggered by multiple factors, including the destruction of homes and other property, forced evictions, plans to relocate communities to new townships, settler violence, movement and access restrictions, military firing zones, and, particularly for East Jerusalem, by lack of civil documentation and revocation of residency rights. In Gaza Strip, the Shelter Cluster estimates that around 17,000 families (95,000 people) are still displaced, as a result of total

### PEOPLE IN NEED



Normalized by population density

### Protection risks

-  1 out of 4 children in Gaza need psychosocial support
- 59% of the communities reported Confiscation/requisition of land
- 37% of the communities reported demolition eviction/evacuation orders
- 61% of the communities reported psychosocial stress due to military operations

Source: VPP+, and Protection Cluster

destruction or severe damage of their homes due to the 2014 hostilities. These families continue to live in precarious and uncertain conditions giving rise to protection concerns.

**Blockade, movement and access restrictions:** The ongoing blockade on Gaza continues to gravely impact the humanitarian situation in Gaza, including the reconstruction effort. Concerns for protection include the restrictions on freedom of movement, denial of permits to leave or enter Gaza, separation of families, detention and interrogation of those leaving Gaza. In the West Bank, the "Seam Zone" and Barrier-affected communities are particularly affected by restrictions on access to land, water and livelihoods in detriment of the human rights to which Palestinians are entitled.

### Gender based violence

The protracted protection crisis has created the conditions and exacerbated GBV in all its forms, including sexual violence, domestic violence and early marriage. Availability and capacity of services is very limited and survivors and communities have minimal information on existing services and how to access them. According to PCBS only 0.7 percent of GBV survivors sought assistance.<sup>3</sup> Access and movement restrictions in Area



C and East Jerusalem act as a further barrier to women receiving the support they need following incidents of GBV.

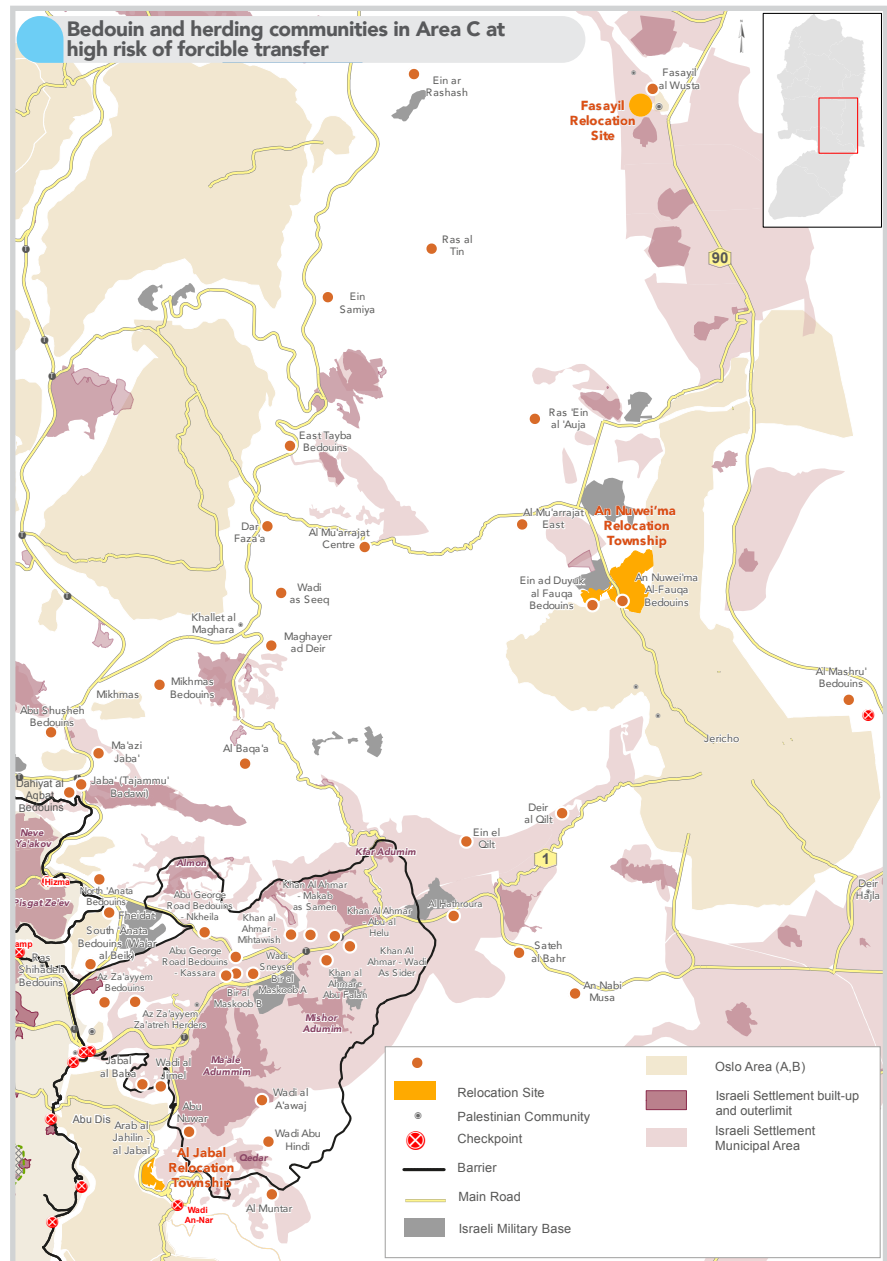
## AFFECTED POPULATION

All Palestinians in Gaza and the West Bank including East Jerusalem are currently affected by the lack of respect for IHL and IHRL and the lack of accountability for violations of these laws. The current policies and practices and the protracted nature of the Israeli occupation undermine Palestinians' enjoyment of their human rights.

In Gaza, those most in need of protection interventions include individuals and families who live or work in the ARA, IDPs living with host families or in temporary accommodation, women and children at risk of GBV, and those in need of ongoing psychosocial, legal and other support related to the most recent escalation of hostilities.

In the West Bank, they include 61 Palestinian Bedouin and herder communities at high risk of forcible transfer (8,000 Palestinians); those vulnerable to evictions and destruction of property in Area C, half of whom are children; those affected by demolitions and revocation of their residency rights in East Jerusalem; communities affected by settler violence; and densely populated refugee camps such as Aida, Arroub, Shu'fat and al Jalazune. In both West Bank and Gaza, particularly vulnerable groups, such as older people and people with disabilities, tend to be invisible for mainstream interventions and, as such, can become excluded from humanitarian response. Efforts have to be made to render humanitarian response more inclusive of all and to ensure equitable access to essential services.

Palestine refugees are particularly vulnerable to violations of their rights under IHL. Refugees in the West Bank are disproportionately affected by plans for forcible relocation with most of those at risk in Bedouin communities (65 percent of whom are refugees, many of whom have been displaced multiple times). Refugee camps remain sites of particular protection concern - between January and 31 October 2015, there were 431 search and arrest operations in the camps. Frequently incursions lead to clashes with the camp population (there were 254 confrontations in the 19 camps in 2015 as of end of October, with 55 in Aida Camp alone). Use of live ammunition is a particular concern in densely populated refugee camps. From January to October 2015, there were 59 live ammunition incidents in the camps, and 23 refugee fatalities (mostly in Aida and Jalazone camps) and 403 injuries (including 41 children). More general protection issues in Gaza are largely applicable to both refugees and non-refugees.



## HUMANITARIAN NEEDS

- Increase respect for International Humanitarian Law and International Human Rights Law and strengthen accountability for violations. These violations are a major driver of humanitarian need across the oPt
- Related to the above, is the need to prevent and mitigate the impact of violations, including through:
  - Monitoring and documentation, advocacy and interventions with Israeli authorities and other relevant actors.
  - Provision of psychosocial support.
  - Provision of protective presence.
  - Access to justice (legal support).
  - Clearance of explosive remnants of war (ERW) and awareness raising on the risks of ERW including with children.
  - Provision of GBV services.

## CHILD PROTECTION



### OVERVIEW

The protracted humanitarian protection crisis in oPt has had a devastating impact on the well-being, physical security and future of girls and boys. Restrictions and conflict related violence have left children with a deep sense of insecurity for their future, while family coping mechanisms and community resilience are weakened by the closure regime, conflict and deprivation. 3,811 incidents of grave violations against children were documented in oPt between 1 January 2014 and 30 June 2015, affecting 49,087 children. These violations included killings and injuries, detention and ill treatment, demolitions, attacks against schools, and child recruitment.

In Gaza the longstanding blockade and escalation of conflict in 2014 exacerbated an already dire situation. The 2014 conflict resulted in the death of 551 and injury of 3,370 children, many who have been left with life-long disabilities and will need ongoing case management support. An estimated 27,000 children have had their homes completely destroyed. The entire population, including at least 900,000 children is exposed to the dangers of Unexploded Ordnances (UXOs) following the recent escalation of conflict. Children are especially vulnerable when they play in conflict affected areas.

The existence and expansion of Israeli settlements including in East Jerusalem have been a primary driver of protection threats against children. Seizure of land for settlement building and future expansion has contributed to children's physical insecurity, as well as house demolition, families' loss of land, resources, assets and livelihoods. It has increased children's exposure to violence, risk of detention, forced displacement and impeded access to services, including education. The situation threatens children's security and psychosocial well-being and negatively impacts on the fabric of family and community life. Violence and disruption to social services and protection systems also undermine the ability of parents to care for and protect their children.

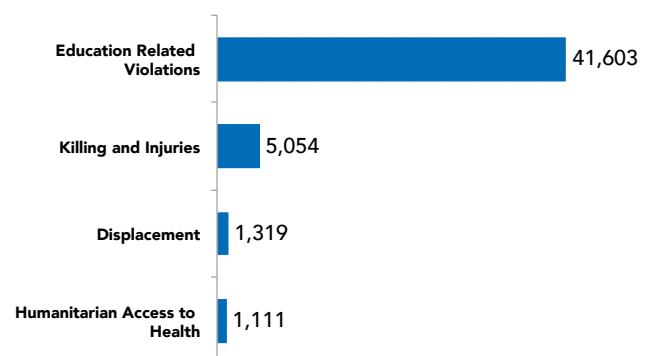
### AFFECTED POPULATION

In Gaza, the entire strip is severely affected as a result of the ongoing blockade, and there are high levels of psychosocial support, ongoing emergency support, and mine awareness-raising required. Although the Child Protection Working Group was able to reach around 147,908 children since the 2014 conflict, over 450,000 children and adults are still in need of support, including structured psychosocial measures in the community to build their resilience as well as child protection interventions. 33,000 children require individual case management support. Injuries as a result of UXOs are ongoing and over 484,000 children need to be continually sensitized on mine awareness. In the West Bank, almost 57,000 children requiring psychosocial support (PSS), child protection and legal support services.

### HUMANITARIAN NEEDS

- Community-based individual and family psychosocial support and child protection services for 225,092 children and 225,092 adult carers in Gaza, and for 57,000 children in the West Bank, including East Jerusalem.
- Individual child protection case management for the most vulnerable 33,143 children in Gaza and 1,858 children in the West Bank, including East Jerusalem.
- Legal assistance for 1,400 children in the West Bank.
- UXO awareness for 484,000 children in the Gaza Strip.

### CHILDREN AFFECTED BY GRAVE VIOLATIONS IN OPT: JANUARY 2014 - JUNE 2015



Source: CAAC Database

# FOOD SECURITY

## NUMBER OF PEOPLE IN NEED



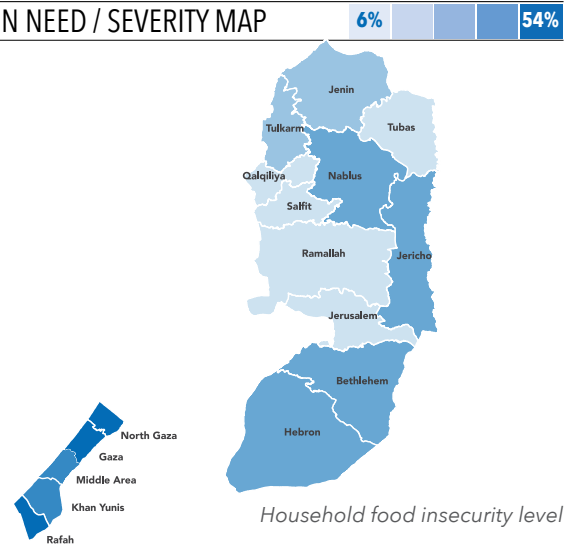
## OVERVIEW

Protracted conflict, repeated shocks and continued restrictions on freedom of movement, constrained productive capacities and a lack of economic opportunities have resulted in high unemployment and low household incomes in Palestine. This, together with a high cost of living – particularly for food – has left 1.6 million Palestinians (27 per cent of households) food insecure. Although food is available, it is priced out of reach for many. These households are food insecure even though many already receive food assistance and other forms of social transfers from the Palestinian Authority and a variety of international organizations. With poor, food insecure families spending half their incomes on food, food and livelihood assistance enables scarce cash resources to be spent on other essentials such as education, health and clean water, preventing a further deterioration of food security and livelihood status and avoiding negative coping mechanisms.

The level of unemployment in the oPt remains one of the highest in the region - a quarter of the Palestinian labor force was unemployed in the second quarter of 2015 (41.5 per cent in Gaza and 15.4 per cent in the West Bank). Youth unemployment, which exceeds 60 per cent in Gaza, is particularly alarming. Lower household incomes, poor food utilization due to poor quality water, sanitation and hygiene, limited access to health care, and declining quality of diets also contribute to food insecurity.

Approximately 50 per cent of the Palestinian population suffers from more than one micronutrient deficiency. The situation is particularly alarming for female adolescents in Gaza, with 72

## PEOPLE IN NEED / SEVERITY MAP



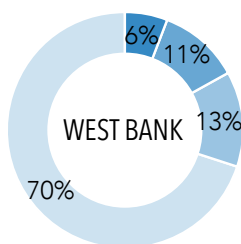
percent suffering from Vitamin D and 64 percent suffering from Vitamin A deficiencies.

Preliminary findings from an IDP survey in Gaza reveal a high number of families incurring debt to purchase food, in addition to other negative coping mechanisms in terms of food consumption and diversity.

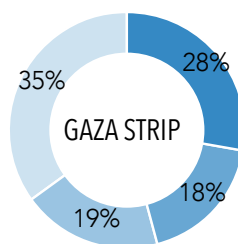
In the Gaza Strip, already fragile livelihoods have been severely impacted by three Israeli military operations in six years. The impact of the 2014 conflict was particularly devastating, especially in the agricultural sector. However, over one year on, due to severe underfunding, reconstruction and rehabilitation of essential productive assets has been very slow: none of the destroyed greenhouses, only 4 per cent of tree orchards, 16 per cent of water wells, 27 per cent of vegetable fields, and 35 per cent of sheep and cattle farms have been reconstructed or rehabilitated.

The livelihoods of fisherfolk were also severely impacted by the destruction of assets during the 2014 conflict compounding the effects of the long-standing Israeli-imposed limitation on

## FOOD SECURITY

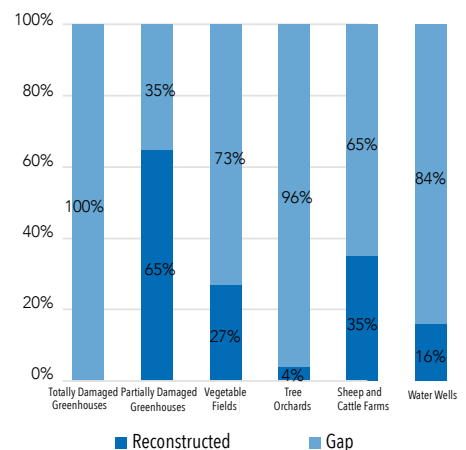


- Severely Food Insecure
- Moderately Food Insecure
- Marginally Food Secure
- Food Secure



- Severely Food Insecure
- Moderately Food Insecure
- Marginally Food Secure
- Food Secure

## AGRICULTURAL RECONSTRUCTION, GAZA STRIP



Source: Food Security Sector

access to deep water, and “dual-use” restrictions on the import of essential items needed to repair and maintain boats.

In the West Bank, livelihoods are particularly impacted by restrictions in Area C, which holds the most significant land and natural resources for Palestinian development, including the bulk of agricultural and grazing land. Demolitions of homes and other structures, confiscations and restrictions on maintenance and rehabilitation of productive assets, as well as forcible transfers, movement restrictions, and settlement expansion all contribute to livelihood deterioration. According to the Vulnerability Profile Plus assessment, 163 communities reported a decrease in their access to land, almost 80 per cent of them are in Area C or East Jerusalem. In 2015, demolitions and confiscation of agricultural assets have more than doubled compared to 2014 (174 vs. 81). Across the oPt, the overall result is a decrease in resilience and an increased dependency on the Israeli market and on humanitarian aid.

Support to food insecure households is coordinated by the Food Security Sector and bilaterally between the Palestinian Authority from one side and UNRWA and other international organizations from the other, through crosschecking beneficiary lists, and assessing household status taking into account assistance from all sources.

## AFFECTED POPULATION GROUPS

47 per cent of households in Gaza and 16 per cent in the West Bank, including East Jerusalem, are food insecure. Food insecurity remains a key humanitarian concern in Palestine, particularly for the population affected by the 2014 conflict in Gaza.

In the West Bank, 29 percent of households living in refugee camps are food insecure, followed by 20 percent of rural households, and 14 percent of urban households. Households headed by women are particularly affected by food insecurity in the West Bank, with 25 percent facing food insecurity, compared to 15 percent of households headed by men. The livelihoods of Bedouin communities in Area C of the West Bank are at very high risk, as their assets are subject to continued demolitions and confiscations of productive and personal assets.

In the Gaza Strip, food insecurity levels are high in all areas with 46 percent of affected households living in refugee camps, 41 percent in rural areas, and 47 percent in urban areas. Both households headed by women and by men face high levels of food insecurity in Gaza at 50 and 46 percent respectively. According to UNFPA, there are approximately 45,000 pregnant women in Gaza at any time. Nutritional deficiencies in the mother impact the development of the child.

In Gaza, refugees face slightly lower food insecurity levels with 45 percent of households affected, compared to 49 percent of non-refugees households however, food insecurity among refugees is still high, as growing poverty as a result of the ongoing Israeli occupation, including the blockade, has severely affected refugees, causing loss of livelihoods

## FOOD INSECURITY PREVALENCE WITHIN LIVELIHOOD TYPES

	AVERAGE FOOD INSECURITY	FARMERS	HERDERS	MIXED HOLDINGS
GAZA STRIP	47%	35%	70%	N/A
WEST BANK	16%	14%	34%	18%

and eroded the coping strategies of communities who were already vulnerable. Unemployment rates continue to be higher amongst refugees (at 42.3 percent compared to 39.8 per cent for non-refugees). The increase in needs since 2000 is dramatic - a more than 1,000 per cent increase compared to the 80,000 refugees who required assistance at the start of 2000. In the West Bank, including East Jerusalem, 22 percent of Palestinian refugee households are food insecure, compared to 14 percent of non-refugees. The estimated 230,705 refugees living in camps are particularly affected. Unemployment reached 22 percent in camps in 2015, contributing to extremely high rates of food insecurity (29 per cent). In addition, over 5,000 refugee Bedouin and herder households in Area C, represent some of the most vulnerable populations in the West Bank in terms of both protection threats and food insecurity.

## HUMANITARIAN NEEDS

- The 27 percent of Palestinian households who are food insecure are in need of food assistance, livelihood support and cash. In light of the bleak economic outlook, the food insecurity situation is likely to worsen if humanitarian assistance is interrupted. Households are assessed on a regular basis to determine their ongoing needs and to assess if existing levels of assistance are adequate.
- There is an urgent need to support females in food insecure households in producing nutritious and diversified food for both household consumption and the local markets. Women own or co-own only 7.2 percent of agricultural holdings, but they contribute from 30 percent to 80 percent of labor requirements in agriculture.
- Immediate assistance and livelihood support for farmers in Area C of the West Bank. Traditional income generating activities are becoming unsustainable for this group as even the most basic support for farmers is subject to increasingly stringent Israeli policies, e.g. through the confiscation of pipes essential to preserve the functioning of irrigation systems. This compounds the precarious and costly price of access to water for Palestinian farmers being prohibited from drilling new wells and carrying out essential maintenance to deteriorated irrigation systems.
- Restoration of the productive capacity of farmers, herders, breeders and fishers in the Gaza Strip following the 2014 conflict, which to date has been dramatically low. The failure to restore key assets such as irrigation systems, greenhouses and fruit orchards has increased the dependency on short-term assistance.

## SHELTER

### NUMBER OF PEOPLE IN NEED



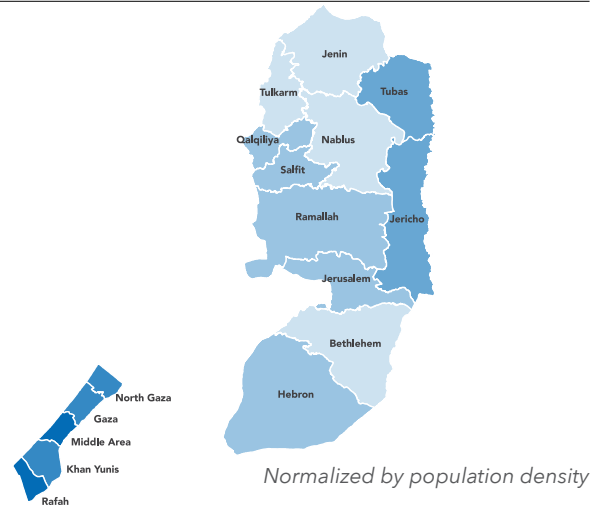
### OVERVIEW

An estimated 990,000 people in Gaza and the West Bank, including East Jerusalem are in need of emergency and recovery shelter support and essential non-food items (NFIs). Most in need of assistance are 488,000 people.

Repair and reconstruction of damaged properties in Gaza has commenced, but has been hampered by slow access to materials and funds. The approximately 95,000 people displaced as a result of the 2014 escalation are living in a variety of shelter conditions including unrepaired damaged houses, rental units, with host families, or in caravans, tents and makeshift shelters. Shelter vulnerability has been intensified by the ongoing blockade which has caused a chronic shortage of housing units (of over 75,000 units) and resulted in overcrowding, increases in rental prices, inadequate accommodation and associated health and protection concerns. Expansion of the list of 'dual-use' materials subject to entry restrictions has made the provision of humanitarian assistance more challenging. While the Gaza Reconstruction Mechanism has facilitated controlled entry of vital construction materials, there is a need for humanitarian imports to be identified and prioritized to ensure urgent shelter needs are met as well as to enable durable solutions that can end displacement.

In East Jerusalem and the wider West Bank, Israeli policy and spatial planning restrictions continue to stifle Palestinian development and undermine the shelter needs of the Palestinian population in some 70 percent of Area C. Mass displacement is becoming an increasing concern, with 61 communities identified at high risk of forcible transfer and 107 identified in need of consolidation and winterization to increase resilience. Notable increases in shelter demolitions towards the end of 2015 and planned Israeli forced relocations are restricting access to livelihoods and basic services in Area C and East Jerusalem, while the risks of working in these areas extend to humanitarian actors, including criminalization, material seizure and confiscation.

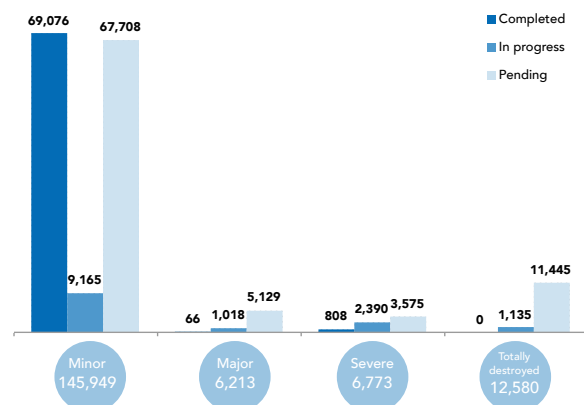
### PEOPLE IN NEED



### AFFECTED POPULATION

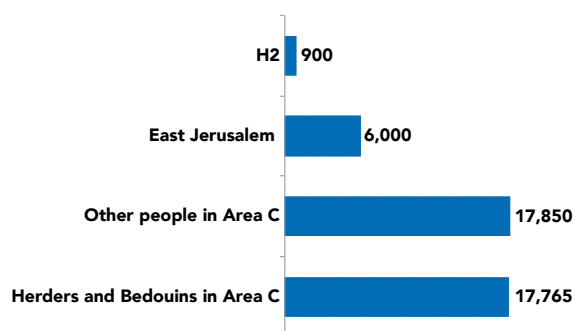
Of the 488,000 people most in need of assistance, this includes 78,000 of the 95,000 people still displaced in the Gaza Strip as a result of the 2014 conflict in ongoing need of temporary shelter assistance, 168,000 people in Gaza and 45,000 in the West Bank suffering from substandard housing/overcrowding; 176,000 people in need of emergency response/ preparedness support; and approximately 21,000 people affected by previous conflicts in Gaza. IDPs are one of the most vulnerable caseloads, facing multiple and prolonged displacement unless reconstruction occurs; over 950 widows, divorced or abandoned women are particularly vulnerable in this regard. However, only 30 percent of surveyed IDPs have been able to start reconstruction, according to preliminary survey results. A further 502,000 people across the Gaza Strip, including 20,000

### PROGRESS AND OUTSTANDING NEEDS IN REPAIRS AND RECONSTRUCTION



Source: Shelter Cluster

### PEOPLE LIVING IN INADEQUATE SHELTERS IN NEED OF IMPROVEMENTS, REHABILITATION OR WINTERISATION IN THE WEST BANK



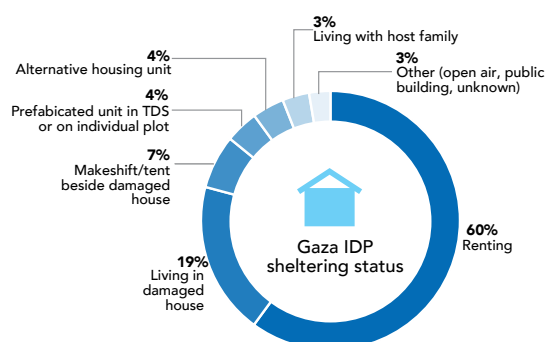
Source: Shelter Cluster

elderly and over 230,000 children, are affected by damage to their homes sustained in the last conflict and are in need of repairs. In addition, about 6,000 vulnerable hardship cases (which include disabled and elderly persons, widows, divorced females, orphans and the abject poor) are at risk and urgently need upgrading of their sub-standard homes in Gaza.

In the West Bank, most people whose homes need upgrading are in the governorates of Hebron (9,848 people) and Jerusalem (9,861 people). Amongst the most vulnerable are Bedouins or herders of which over 70 percent are Palestine refugees who were evicted from or fled their places of residence in southern Israel in the early 1950s (including 5,700 children). Cluster partners estimate that some 1,572 people in Area C and East Jerusalem will need humanitarian support following an individual demolition, while up to 1,050 people may need support following mass demolitions (projections based on annual trends).

In both Gaza and the West Bank, winter storms in 2013 and 2014 have highlighted the importance of rehabilitation and consolidation as well as greater capacity to respond with emergency shelter/NFIs and the need to have substantial NFIs stocks. The displaced population and especially minors, women, disabled and elderly people living in sub-standard

### IDP SHELTERING STATUS



Source: Shelter Cluster

shelters are most at risk from harsh weather conditions and lack of incorporated facilities like WASH.

Following the 2014 hostilities in Gaza, UNRWA assessments found that some 140,000 Palestine refugee homes had been damaged or destroyed, over 12,000 of which were rendered uninhabitable. More than one year after the ceasefire, approximately 47,000 refugee families need to undertake repairs to their homes. Approximately 9,000 displaced refugee families – not including approximately 150 refugee families who are still living in temporary caravans - will continue to require emergency shelter cash assistance into 2016. Refugees in the West Bank displaced as a result of Israeli home demolitions and other policies, are also in urgent need of protection and assistance.

## HUMANITARIAN NEEDS

- Appropriate temporary shelter solutions for the outstanding displaced population in need of shelter assistance (13,000 families, 78,000 individuals) in Gaza in order to reduce the length and impact of displacement, including risks associated with conditions and crowdedness of temporary shelter arrangements, particularly on women and children who face increased vulnerability to GBV and greater burden of care.
- Winterization and NFI support (including repairs) for a prioritized 28,000 vulnerable families (168,000 people) living in damaged, overcrowded or sub-standard conditions due to the housing shortage, who are vulnerable to harsh weather conditions and protection concerns.
- Gender equitable access to shelter assistance is ensured and people with disabilities and injuries prioritized with appropriate shelter solutions.
- Humanitarian imports are identified and prioritized to be able to meet shelter requirements in Gaza.
- Preparedness and response to mass forcible displacement in Area C of the West Bank (61 communities have been identified at risk of forcible transfer).
- Shelter support following single demolitions to refugees and non-refugees.
- Shelter rehabilitation and upgrading for those in marginalized areas and communities at risk of forcible displacement, including 107 Area C communities identified in need of consolidation and winterization to increase resilience.
- Greater capacity to respond with emergency shelter/NFIs and substantial NFIs stocks in the case of winter storms, including support to the government to provide assistance during emergencies and building capacity to manage crises.

## WASH

### NUMBER OF PEOPLE IN NEED



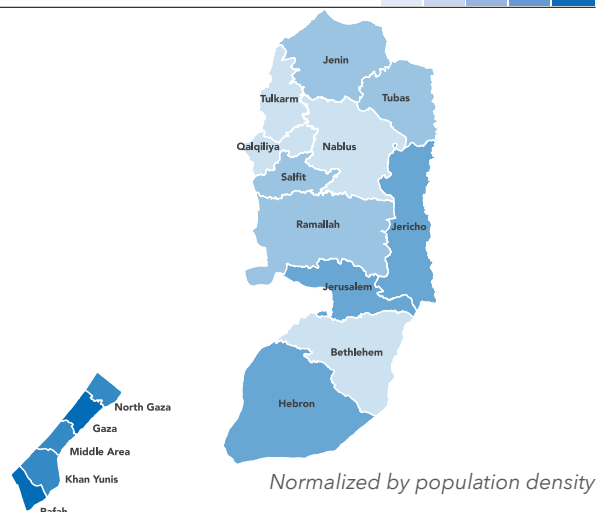
### OVERVIEW

In the Gaza Strip, the unsustainable water and sanitation situation exacerbated by the longstanding blockade has been compounded by the 2014 conflict. Problems arising from the slow implementation of the Gaza Reconstruction Mechanism (GRM), prohibition on entry of 'dual-use' materials, inadequate power supplies and lack of government regulation have seriously affected the WASH situation in Gaza.

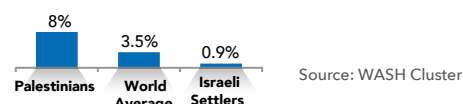
As many as 23 WASH items such as pumps, drilling equipment, and disinfectant chemicals are on the Israeli 'dual use' list, meaning that entry of such items to Gaza is only selectively cleared. Inclusion of mobile pumps on the dual use list has put winterization relief operations (such as flood prevention and response) at risk, increasing the threat of disease outbreaks. All WASH items should be removed from the dual-use list.

The chronic electricity and fuel deficit affecting Gaza over the past nine years has disrupted the delivery of basic WASH services, including more than 280 water and wastewater facilities. Fluctuating and inadequate fuel supplies to power water and wastewater utilities results in taps running dry or inadequate water supply and untreated sewage overflowing into the streets or into the sea. 40 per cent of the Gaza Strip population receive water supply for five to eight hours only once every three days. Without reliable water access, 60 per cent of Gaza's population resort to private, unregulated water suppliers, with lower and largely unmonitored hygiene standards, exposing them to severe public health risks.<sup>1</sup> Due to the lack of power supply and wastewater treatment capacity, up to 95 million litres of partially treated or untreated raw sewage is discharged into the Mediterranean Sea every day while overflowing sewage infiltrates and pollutes groundwater, making 96 per cent of the groundwater aquifers unfit for human

### PEOPLE IN NEED



### EXPENSE ON WATER AS PERCENTAGE OF TOTAL MONTHLY EXPENDITURE



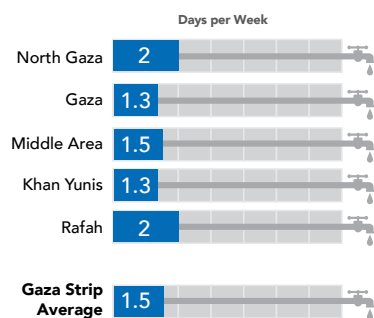
consumption. Only 10.4% of households are reported to have access to improved<sup>2</sup> sources of drinking water<sup>3</sup> according to the latest MICS. Lack of regulatory capacity and oversight has led to bacterial contamination of even treated water along the entire supply chain from source to households.

In Area C of the West Bank communities are affected by inadequate water for drinking, domestic consumption and for livestock, affecting the overall resilience of these communities. The destruction of essential WASH infrastructure has led to displacement, poverty and increased risk of disease and illness for the Palestinian population - 38 WASH structures including cisterns, latrines and tanks were destroyed by the Israeli army in Area C since the beginning of 2015 alone.<sup>4</sup>

The near impossibility for Palestinians to obtain permits to repair, rehabilitate and construct even basic water and sanitation infrastructure in Area C severely impacts access to adequate

1. EWASH Advocacy Note on Impact of power cuts on the WASH sector in Gaza, 2015.
2. As per the WHO-UNICEF Joint Monitoring Programme, an improved source of drinking water includes: piped into dwelling; piped into compound, yard or plot; public tap / standpipe; tube well; boreholed; protected well; protected spring; rainwater collection; and bottled water. Water sourced from a tanker-truck is classified as an unimproved drinking water source, which is the main source of drinking water in the Gaza Strip (68%). Tanker trucks can become very contaminated if they are not cleaned regularly and filled with properly chlorinated water for drinking.
3. Palestinian Central Bureau of Statistics (MICS, 2014).
4. OCHA Demolitions System, September 2015.

### AVERAGE NUMBER OF DAYS SUBSCRIBERS PROVIDED WITH WATER WEEKLY IN SUMMER



Source: WASH Cluster

WASH services to many communities - around 70 per cent of Palestinian communities in Area C are not connected to a water network. Coupled with dilapidated water networks and losses in transmission, water scarce districts face a severe water crunch in summer and are forced to buy water at unaffordable rates. Palestinians spend an average of eight per cent of their monthly expenditure on purchasing water, compared to the world average of 3.5 percent,<sup>5</sup> while Israelis living in illegal settlements only spend 0.9 percent.<sup>6</sup> For families who are left with no choice other than to rely on expensive tankered water this figure increases half of their monthly expenditure.<sup>7</sup> Limited water storage capacities at household and community level, strains coping mechanisms. Water consumption can be as low as 20 litres per person per day in communities without water infrastructure - one-fifth of the World Health Organization's recommended minimum guideline value.

### AFFECTED POPULATION

In Gaza Strip, there are about 1.3 million refugees, IDPs, vulnerable people (children, elderly, infirm) and vulnerable non-refugee communities affected by substandard water quality, lack of access to water supply, sanitation, hygiene awareness, and water storage facilities, inability to pay for water, and by winter floods. An estimated one million people are exposed to the risks of sub-standard water quality, while 169,975 people lack access to water, 387,600 people lack water storage facilities, 363,617 lack access to sanitation, and about 473,160 people are affected by winter floods. There are also 329,720 especially vulnerable people including children, adolescents, and people aged over 70 years.

In the West Bank, especially in Areas A, B and C, there are around 420,000 people such as refugees and vulnerable persons (elderly, children), and communities at risk who have been affected by substandard water quality, lack of access to water supply, sanitation, hygiene awareness, and water storage facilities, and inability to pay for water. Among them, an

estimated 110,102 people are in Area C, 307,340 people in areas A and B, and 1,800 are in East Jerusalem. An estimated 128,835 people are exposed to the risk of substandard water quality, 182,592 lack access to water, 24,238 lack water storage facilities, and about 22,312 people lack access to sanitation,

For the approximately 43 percent of refugees in Gaza who reside in camps, WASH conditions are particularly serious as population density reaches 42,000 inhabitants per km<sup>2</sup>. An estimated 143,204 people living in refugee camps require improved WASH services. There is a need to improve water and wastewater networks in refugee camps and access to import the required materials and equipment into Gaza. Constraints in these enablers have resulted in highly degraded water and wastewater networks, posing severe public health risks and rendering these refugee camps particularly vulnerable to water-borne diseases, as well as flooding induced displacement.

### HUMANITARIAN NEEDS

- In Gaza, given expected delays in reconstruction efforts, there is a need to ensure the stability of the current (reduced) level of service and provide household level support to conflict-affected and IDP families in improving water and sanitation access, water storage and hygiene. An estimated one million people are exposed to sub-standard water quality in Gaza.
- There is also a secondary need to provide service in underserved/ unconnected communities in Gaza. Access to clean water is limited in Gaza and distribution and storage systems were damaged during the conflict. An estimated 16,000 roof water tanks at household level are needed as an emergency response and 50,000 tanks are needed to restore the normal household storage capacity before the conflict.
- Access to water for around 35,000 people in 52 communities in South West Bank, who are directly/ indirectly affected by water shortage (at primary or secondary filling point), which results in a delay of the distribution of water (due to an increase of time to fill the trucks in the filling points).
- Improvement of water, sanitation and hygiene facilities and services in schools in Gaza and West Bank, given the specific vulnerability of children.
- More suitable and sustainable solutions to the electricity shortage, exploring other options such as solar energy in the water supply sector and additional supply from existing sources.
- Removal of WASH and construction materials from the dual-use list and GRM so they are available in a more timely way.

5. Palestinian Water Authority, Palestine, the Right to Water, April 2015.

6. B'Tselem, Dispossession and Exploitation: Israel's Policy in the Jordan Valley and Northern Dead Sea, May 2011.

7. Palestinian Water Authority, Palestine, the Right to Water, April 2015.



## HEALTH AND NUTRITION

### NUMBER OF PEOPLE IN NEED



### OVERVIEW

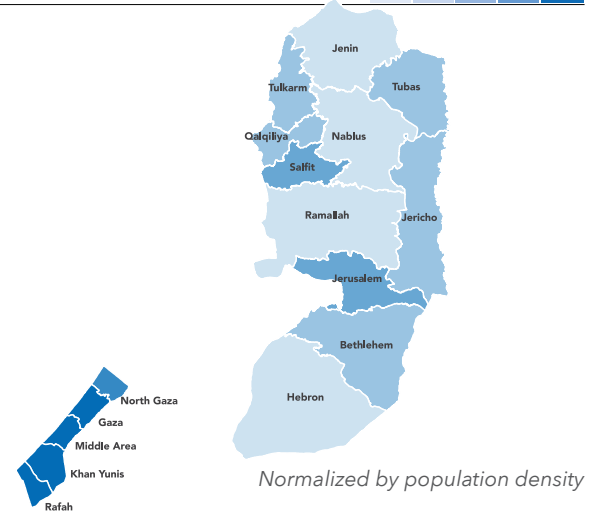
An estimated 1.4 million people are in need of humanitarian health and nutrition interventions; over 1.1 million people in the Gaza Strip and 253,000 in the West Bank. The health system in oPt is operating under severe pressure due to the effects of the occupation, blockade, internal Palestinian divide, rapid population growth, and lack of adequate financial resources and shortages in basic supplies.

In Gaza, years of blockade and movement restrictions on people and materials, including medical resources, has led to a serious deterioration in the availability and quality of health services. Half of the 9,040 Ministry of Health staff employed by the Gaza de facto authorities have not been paid for over a year. The 2014 conflict added further strain to the health sector, the effects of which are still being felt. Handicap International has identified 2,090 people (1,411 males and 679 females) with injuries that require rehabilitation and 4,385 persons with disabilities (2,399 males 1,986 females) as particularly vulnerable.<sup>4</sup> UNRWA has reported a dramatic increase in cases of psychological trauma and UNICEF has identified 360,000 children in need of psychological support, the majority of whom still need attention.

A severe fuel shortage and prolonged electricity cuts has also impacted hospitals and medical equipment. Together with shortages of essential drugs, medical spare parts and disposables, this has increased the need for referral of patients outside of Gaza. The virtual closure of the Rafah border has however had a serious impact on referrals – only 148 out of 1,087 referred patients crossed during the first nine months of 2015.<sup>5</sup> Access to hospitals in Egypt can literally be a life and death issue for many Palestinians in the Gaza Strip, vital for those who cannot be treated within Gaza and who have been denied or are ineligible for access to Israeli or West Bank health facilities through Erez. Of the 15,802 patient applications for permits to cross Erez, 12,554 (80 percent) were approved, 780 (5 percent) of patients were denied, and the rest 2,468 (16 percent) did not receive an answer to their applications and thus lost their appointments and delayed treatment.

In Gaza, anemia rates are higher than in oPt as a whole. 31 per cent of preschool children in Gaza are anemic, compared to 22 per cent of pre-school children in the West Bank,<sup>6</sup> while 38 per cent of pregnant women in Gaza are anemic compared to 24 per cent in the West Bank.<sup>7</sup> Maternal and mortality rates have

### PEOPLE IN NEED



**216** communities reported an average time needed of waiting the ambulance for urgent cases above 30 minutes

**414** communities have problems obtaining an Israeli permit to be referred to specialized services in EJ or outside the oPt

Source: VPP+

25

shown an increase during and after the conflict.<sup>8</sup>

In the West Bank, the key concern is lack of access to quality and affordable health services. 132 vulnerable communities in Area C, the Seam Zone, East Jerusalem peripheries and non-camp refugee communities face restricted access to basic health care as a result of insecurity due to the presence and actions of Israeli checkpoints and settler violence; restrictions on the freedom of movement of patients and ambulance services and the building permit regime which diminishes the opportunity to provide accessible and sustainable health services for these communities. According to the VPP, 117 West Bank communities (mostly in Hebron and Jenin governorates) reported there were no regular and sustainable health services in their community - services in some communities are provided by mobile health providers, dependent on short term donor funding. The permit regime, checkpoints and the Barrier also negatively impact those patients who require care at the six East Jerusalem hospitals or Israeli hospitals which provide specialized health services unavailable elsewhere in the oPt.

Specialist health services are particularly limited. Mental health services for example, are limited for Palestinians seeking help through the system in East Jerusalem as services are provided by Israeli providers in Hebrew. This can take a particular toll on women - research on East Jerusalem has shown that the psychological toll of demolitions and forced evictions hits women harder.<sup>9</sup> Decreased access to and availability of

4. Healing the Wound, Handicap International and partners' Gaza Emergency Response Action Report March 2015

5. WHO monthly report, Referral of Patients from the Gaza Strip, September 2015 Palestinian Micronutrient Survey (PMS) 2013, UNICEF and Palestinian Ministry of Health, 2014

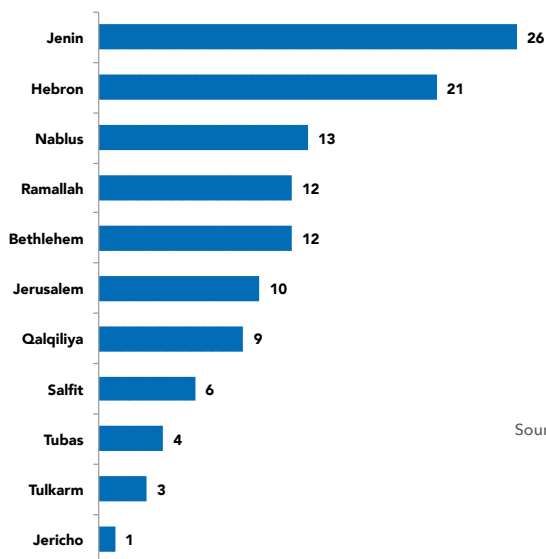
6. Palestinian Micronutrient Survey (PMS) 2013, UNICEF and Palestinian Ministry of Health, 2014 2012, Health and Social Status of area C communities, PCBS

7. Palestinian Micronutrient Survey (PMS) 2013, UNICEF and Palestinian Ministry of Health, 2014 2012

8. UNFPA Situation Report: One Year After the 2014 Gaza War



## COMMUNITIES WITH NO REGULAR HEALTH SERVICE



Source: VPP+

reproductive health care and family planning services also leads to higher prevalence of low birth weight and significantly higher fertility putting both mothers and infants at increased risk of morbidity and mortality. 11 percent of women in the West Bank have an unmet need for family planning.<sup>10</sup>

Emergency preparedness capacity and resilience to respond to manmade and natural emergencies are limited. According to VPP data, 216 oPt communities for example, reported an average waiting time for an ambulance in urgent cases of more than 30 minutes – this is particularly an issue in the West Bank.

Finally, across oPt, there is a gap in both West Bank and Gaza Strip when it comes to health provider referrals of GBV victims and survivors to specialised protection services due to lack of awareness and poor training of health staff on GBV response and referral, although UNRWA does provide specialized services for GBV survivors in its health centres for the refugee population.

### AFFECTED POPULATION

Health and Nutrition Cluster partners have identified a number of vulnerable population groups particularly suffering from a serious lack of access to primary health care, emergency services and mental health services.

In Gaza, these include 80,000 people with limited access to health services as a result of the destruction of health facilities serving their immediate communities (Sheja'ia, Johr Al deek and Khoza'a); 250,000 people in communities in access-restricted areas within two kilometres from the border; and over 1 million people in vulnerable groups across the Gaza Strip, including 287,000 neonates and children, 60,000 pregnant women, 700,000 chronic disease patients, 41,000 elderly people,<sup>11</sup> and 6,475 of the most vulnerable people with disability due to conflict.<sup>12</sup> Of these, 333,067 people

are identified as acutely vulnerable (i.e. 86,287 neonates and children, 18,000 pregnant women, 210,000 chronic and non-communicable disease patients, and 12,305 elderly people who are most affected by restricted health access).

In the West Bank, these include 253,625 people in communities in Area C with restricted access to health services where there is no fully functional Primary Health Care Centre at level 2 and above, including 132 communities in South Hebron, the Jordan Valley and the north of the West Bank, as well as East Jerusalem communities behind the barrier which have limited access to mental health and emergency services (80,589 people).

In Gaza, the protracted crisis impedes public and private healthcare providers, diminishing the options for refugees who are left without the means to afford secondary and tertiary care, generating a rise in healthcare needs. During emergencies in Gaza, health needs arising from displacement such as disease prevention, hygiene promotion, and psychosocial support require additional staff deployments and resourcing. Refugees in the West Bank, particularly refugee Bedouin communities in Area C, the "Seam Zone" and East Jerusalem, also experience multiple obstacles to accessing healthcare, as a result of the Barrier and other Israeli-imposed movement restrictions.

### HUMANITARIAN NEEDS

The effects of the crisis in the oPt on the health of Palestinians has been both direct, leading to violence-related deaths, traumas and injuries, and mental health disorders, and indirect, stemming from the barriers to essential health services. The Health and Nutrition Cluster has identified the gaps and priority health needs as below:

- Access to quality and affordable primary health care and nutrition services
- Access to emergency services and strengthening of emergency preparedness, coping capacity and communities' resilience mainly for potential future conflicts in Gaza and the West Bank
- Life saving emergency drugs, medical disposables and fuel in health facilities
- Access to mental health services particularly in East Jerusalem for women and adolescents
- Strengthened health information management and health coordination to support the 40 health partners and the Ministry of Health in Gaza and the West Bank
- Advocacy for 62,000 patients (18,000 in Gaza and 40,000 in the West Bank) aiming to access specialized referral services, which are at this stage unavailable in Gaza and the West Bank, and advocacy on the need for protection of health care providers and civilians

9. WLAC, 2010: Forced eviction

10. PCBS, MICS, UNICEF, UNFPA, Multiple Indicator Cluster Survey, February 2015

11. MoH annual report 2013

12. Healing the Wounds, Handicap International March 2015.

## EDUCATION

### NUMBER OF PEOPLE IN NEED



### OVERVIEW

588,900 school children in the oPt require assistance to access quality education in a safe, child-friendly environment. Access to education has been compromised due to the protracted conflict and the occupation. In 2014, there were 808 education-related violations<sup>13</sup> recorded across the oPt, affecting over half a million children,<sup>14</sup> including 671 attacks against schools (many of which occurred during the 2014 conflict in Gaza). Attacks on schools are one type of education-related violation and include activities by military or other armed groups and settler-related incidents. In 2015, from January until September there were 106 incidents of education-related violations. The overwhelming majority have been in Area C, Hebron H2 area and East Jerusalem, accounting for over 75 percent of the incidents reported and affecting over 8,800 children.

In the West Bank, including East Jerusalem, children face regular education-related violations from Israeli Security Forces (ISF) and settlers. Humanitarian access to education is also heavily compromised due to detention, military and armed group activities and settler-related incidents. Checkpoints and the Barrier impede access to education for children living in East Jerusalem communities on the far side of the Barrier. These children are exposed to conflict-related violence and delays, which can lead to higher school dropout rates. In the West Bank, tear gas and rubber bullets are frequently fired at students, and the ISF make regular incursions onto school grounds. Frequently, children must pass through armed checkpoints, where they are subjected to bag and/or body searches, and at times harassment and detention. Thirty-three communities indicated that at least 20 per cent of students in the community must pass a checkpoint to reach school. Students also risk confrontation, intimidation and violence while walking past settlements or buildings occupied by settlers. In addition, schools in Area C and East Jerusalem are at constant risk of stop work or demolition orders, preventing both the maintenance and expansion of school infrastructure, while Area C schools have been closed down in order to make room for firing/military zones.

In addition, the Palestinian Authority continues to have only limited access to schools and students in Area C and East Jerusalem. Students in Area C face the risk of

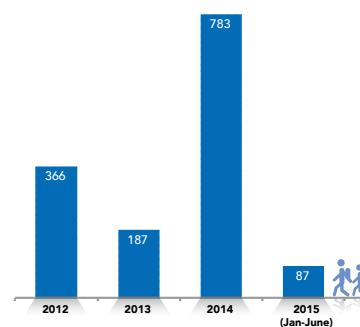
### PEOPLE IN NEED



forced displacement, demolitions and a shortage of school infrastructure, particularly in Bedouin communities, while students in remote communities often must walk up to 10 kilometers to get to and from school, putting their safety at risk. In East Jerusalem, the fragmented education system has left the PA with control of only 12 percent of the education system, and building restrictions hamper rehabilitation and expansion of educational facilities. Challenges to recruit teachers and staff from the West Bank, resulting from the access restrictions, strongly impacts capacity within the teaching cadre.

In the Gaza Strip, armed conflict and the resulting damage and destruction of facilities and property have severely disrupted services and impacted the psychosocial wellbeing of children and teachers and their ability to conduct regular educational activities. The blockade, combined with the negative

### ATTACKS AGAINST EDUCATION, WEST BANK AND GAZA



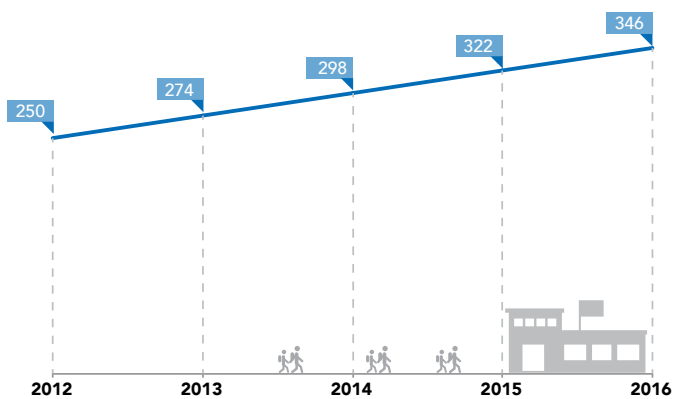
Attacks cover demolition, military or other armed group activities, occupation or military use of premises, settler related incident

Source: Education Cluster

13. Education-related violations as per the MRM include: attacks against schools, military use of schools, attacks on related protected persons in relation to schools, interferences with access to education and threats of attacks against protected persons in relation to schools

14. Monitoring and Reporting Mechanism (MRM) database, 2014.

## SCHOOLS SHORTFALL IN GAZA



Source: Education Cluster

psychosocial effects on children of conflicts in 2008-2009, 2012 and 2014 have affected student well-being, performance and completion rates. Continuous power outages and electricity rationing, poor shelter and living conditions, economic deprivation, psychosocial impacts from the escalation, overcrowded conditions, limited hours of instruction due to schools working on double shifts, and poorly trained teachers all affect educational outcomes. As a result, student performance in the Gaza Strip is falling behind that of the West Bank.

### AFFECTED POPULATION

In the West Bank, the 48,258 school children in Area C and 68,277 school children East Jerusalem continue to be affected by the consequences of the Palestinian Authority's limited reach in these areas. Education related violations mostly affect 8,800 children in Area C, Hebron H2 area and East Jerusalem (where some 75 percent of these violations occur) however, 1,100 children were also affected by education-related violations between January and September in other parts of the West Bank and need to be supported. In the Gaza Strip, the ongoing blockade and the recurrent violent conflicts have affected all 462,770 basic, secondary and kindergarten (KG) students in the Gaza Strip. Of particular concern are students in the North Directorate (90,418), East Gaza Directorate (61,874) and East Khan Younis Directorate (43,596), which were most intensely affected by the 2014 conflict. The 4,557 students who attend the 13 schools in the Access Restricted Area (ARA) also face Israeli military incursions, cross fire and activity by armed Palestinian groups.

Palestine refugee children make-up a significant proportion of students. The cycles of violent conflict and the blockade have a dire impact on the learning environment of Palestine refugee children, especially those with learning difficulties or other special needs. These children often need assistance that exceeds the services available through the fundamental UNRWA education programme. Parents of refugee students in Gaza struggle with providing basic school stationary and other supplies for students to undertake schoolwork- this is particularly true for abject poor refugee families, who are unable to meet their basic food needs, let alone education-related costs. After the 2014 hostilities, over 1,000 refugee children lost their fathers; moreover, thousands of refugee children were displaced, and had to adjust to different schools, teachers and classmates. The number of students has stretched the capacity of UNRWA schools, which operate in double or triple shifts, leaving little time for remedial support or extracurricular activities. The volatile situation, escalations of violence, closure, isolation, and other restrictions have often threatened to interrupt access to traditional educational facilities, necessitating innovative educational tools to reach students during emergencies.

### HUMANITARIAN NEEDS

- Children require access to school, safe learning spaces and/or essential educational services
- School-based psychosocial support for children in Area C and East Jerusalem who face regular attacks and harassment to, from and during school, and for children still dealing with the trauma of war in Gaza.
- Protective measures for schools, including advocacy, reporting and legal support, to address the increasing trend of education-related violations across the West Bank, and to promote accountability for perpetrators of violations.
- Building the capacity of the Ministry of Education and schools for contingency planning, emergency preparedness, disaster risk reduction (DRR) and resilience programming as related to the education sector.
- Coordinating and implementing essential education activities in Area C and East Jerusalem, where the Palestinian Authority has limited access.

## DISASTER RISK REDUCTION

### RISK AND VULNERABILITIES

A recent UN risk assessment in oPt<sup>15</sup> identified the following main risks: natural hazards, including earthquakes, floods, droughts and landslides; conflict escalations, particularly acute and obvious in the Gaza Strip, but also for the West Bank; and other man-made hazards, such as ongoing natural resource stress and environmental degradation resulting in a crisis, or interacting with man-made factors.

The level of vulnerability, that increase the consequences of a disasters, are classified as high to very high, and are driven by access restrictions; which impacts both the disaster-resilient development, and national and international rescue and relief assistance; Intra-Palestinian divide, as the continued absence of a unified authority impact unified disaster risk management; infrastructure vulnerability, such as non-safe buildings and a transportation infrastructure where Palestinian use of roads is restricted; social vulnerability and economic vulnerability, with lack of awareness and resources – private and public - to create a resilient society.

Based on the latest assessment of hazard and vulnerability perception, and disaster preparedness, on the local level<sup>16</sup> the main risks identified by communities are related to floods and deteriorating infrastructure. Based on a composite ranking of stand-alone disaster risks and vulnerabilities, the most vulnerable communities are located in the Hebron governorate – due to exposure to winter storms, floods, and weak infrastructure. With a situation of fragmentation and access restrictions the majority of communities lack established comprehensive response plans, and are relying informal plans and rely on the presence of volunteers in their emergency responses. However, refugee camps and vulnerable communities typically have little in the way of community disaster risk reduction (DRR) in place and this, combined with the often dense and substandard construction in e.g. camps, makes them particularly vulnerable to severe impact in case of even moderate natural disasters.

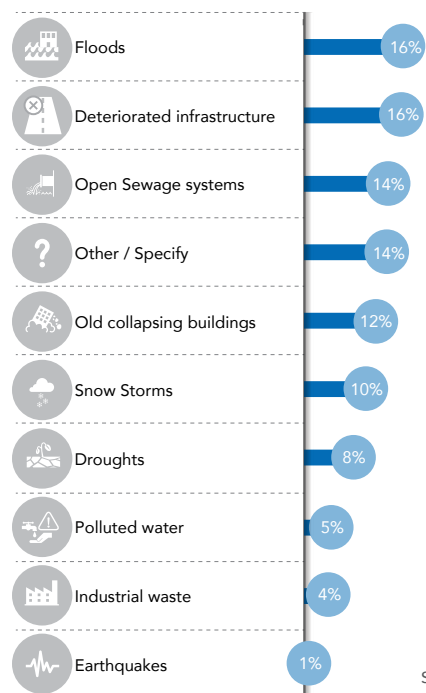
### NATIONAL AND INTERNATIONAL RESPONSE CAPACITY

The national policy on disaster risk management lacks in over-all coherence and comprehensiveness, but a process for new national legislative framework for risk management, complemented with an institutional framework for coordination, has been initiated. The good practices at the local level in providing response need to be built into the level of

national disaster risk management so that national institutions can provide a support framework to strengthen resilience at the community level.

Due to operational and access restrictions Palestinian communities and civil society - and primary service providers such as authorities - have a proven history as primary responders and this need to be strengthened. In that respect, developing resilience at the community level is a key goal for DRR, and the role of volunteers and local-level response will remain crucial for an efficient response. While reducing long term vulnerabilities at community level should be addressed as a priority in national development plans, it is also important to strengthen communities' preparedness and response capacities and resources for disaster events in the shorter term, including preparing and testing and socially and gender-inclusive emergency plans.

### MAIN PERCEIVED RISKS AS SET OUT IN THE VPP+ SURVEY



Source: VPP+

15. UNDAC Disaster Response Preparedness Mission to the State of Palestine, 22 March to 05 April, 2014, Draft, 26 June 2014

16. Vulnerability Profile Project+ (2015).

**INTERNATIONAL CAPACITY**

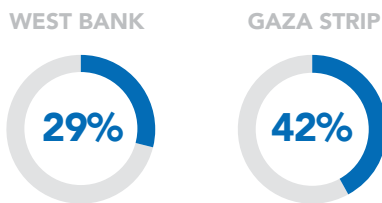
Considering the oPt context, the international community has already set up certain effective emergency preparedness mechanism and systems and has a proven track record of supporting recurrent emergencies linked to the conflict and extreme weather events, through mobilization of in-country and international resources.

UNRWA continues to strengthen emergency preparedness and capacity in the refugee camps in the West Bank and Gaza, including capacity building, external coordination and central and area operation rooms which can be activated in crises. In Gaza, UNRWA is a primary responder in emergencies, as the only actor with the capacity to meet basic needs of both refugees and non-refugees in emergencies.

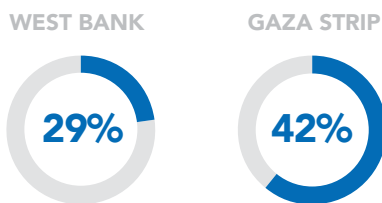
In the 2015 Strategic Response Plan, DRR, preparedness and resilience were included in the objectives and activities undertaken within the joint analysis and planning process, and implemented by UN agencies and NGOs. OCHA oPt, clusters and implementing partners has also worked to ensure changes at the programmatic level and therefore results in tangible differences for affected and vulnerable people. Most clusters have for example introduces preparedness, DRR or resilience activities in their objectives in the 2015 SRP.

Building on the efforts made so far, further progress to integrate preparedness, resilience and contingency planning will continue to be undertaken at the regional level, through the support of Palestinian participation to regional coordination processes, and at the national level with the ongoing support provided to the National DRR Team, by continue to implement the UNDAC 2014 mission recommendations. With its humanitarian partners, OCHA oPt will continue to seek further integration of emergency preparedness, DRR and resilience in the cluster and project planning.

**DOES YOUR LOCALITY HAVE A TRAINED TEAM OF VOLUNTEERS (PRCS AND / OR PCD)?**



**PRESENCE OF ESTABLISHED RESPONSE PLANS**



Source: VPP+

## INFORMATION SOURCES AND METHODOLOGIES

### KEY DATA SOURCES

#### The Vulnerability Profile Project (VPP) 'plus'

In 2015, OCHA coordinated a multi-cluster/ multi-partner nation-wide vulnerability assessment that captured information on a wide range of humanitarian indicators related to physical protection, access to land and livelihoods, water and sanitation, education and health. The methodology is based on perceived vulnerability as expressed by Key Informants at the community level. The aim of the assessment is to make vulnerability information accessible to the humanitarian and development actors, general public and decision makers to understand humanitarian needs, vulnerabilities and risks at a deeper level. The VPP+ was conducted in partnership with the Palestinian Central Bureau of Statistics (PCBS) and clusters.

#### IDP re-registration and vulnerability profiling exercise

This is a multi-cluster/ multi-agency exercise which provides in-depth analysis of the current living situation and vulnerabilities of the over 100,000 people who remained displaced after the 2014 conflict during the time period of the assessment. Data is being collected at the household level throughout the Gaza Strip. The exercise identifies IDPs' protection and other needs, vulnerability and areas of concentration as well as supporting emergency preparedness. (Ongoing)

#### Socio-economic and food security survey (SEFSec)

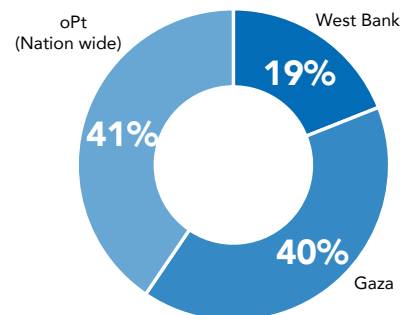
SEFSEC is a joint effort between the PCBS, FAO, UNRWA and WFP to assess the socio-economic and food security situation in the State of Palestine. The new methodology considers poverty indicators, economic vulnerability and food insecurity.

In addition, numerous cluster and agency sources of information have informed the HNO, as well as OCHA own data. The assessment registry contains a detailed list of relevant assessments, databases and reports.

### METHODOLOGIES

**People in need:** Overall number of people in need was calculated by aggregating the highest cluster caseload by governorate in order to provide a conservative estimate while minimizing margin of error by using estimates provided by several clusters. Clusters estimate of people in need are based on a variety of

#### CLUSTER/SECTOR/MULTI-CLUSTER ASSESSMENTS BY GEOGRAPHICAL LOCATION



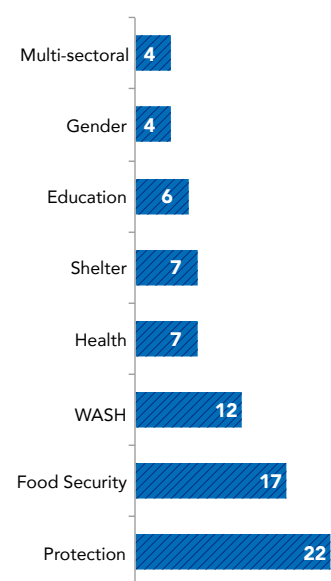
sources including cluster partner data and the VPP+.

**Cluster severity maps:** are based on people in need figures provided by clusters at the governorate level, and normalised by population density.

**Overall severity map:** is based on vulnerability ranking average provided in the VPP+. Initially cluster questions were given weights where individual communities were ranked based on the level of vulnerability (high, medium and low). To produce the overall severity map, the individual vulnerability ranking of each cluster were added up and averaged. To give more realistic reflection of vulnerability level, the map was normalized by the population in need for each and every community.<sup>1</sup>

PCBS data has been used for population figures throughout this document, based on PCBS 2016 population projections. PCBS data is also used for labour participation and employment.

#### CLUSTER/SECTOR/MULTI-CLUSTER ASSESSMENTS



12 of the above are planned for 2016

1. The map should not be used to quantify the people in need. It provides proxy indicator of the geographic dispersion of vulnerability.

## INFORMATION GAPS AND ASSESSMENT PLANNING

### GENDER

#### GAP

In many cases, data disaggregated by sex and gender has not been available and a number of key assessments (ongoing or planned) are missed opportunities for collecting and analysing sex-disaggregated data. Gender issues are rarely prioritized in data collection and analysis beyond basic sex disaggregation in quantitative assessments. However, gender issues should be considered as integral elements of humanitarian assessments in order to assess gender-based sectoral vulnerabilities for which information is lacking such as gender biases in property rights, invisibility of women's contribution to livelihoods and food security, protection concerns related to adolescent boys and girls, biases facing women with disabilities, vulnerability of widows, impact of displacement on protection of women and girls, impact of lack of water and energy on women's livelihoods and health.

#### PLAN

Identification of cluster specific needs resulting from gender based vulnerabilities and barriers to accessing humanitarian assistance is needed.

Technical support from Gender Advisor is available to relevant clusters to ensure that the design of these assessments generates sex and age disaggregated data

### FOOD SECURITY

#### GAP

Food insecurity data is not available at locality level

#### PLAN

The food security sector depends on organizations program databases. The sector uses the PMTF to determine eligible families for targeted food assistance.

### HEALTH AND NUTRITION

#### GAP

Impact of lack of health services in Area C of the West Bank on vulnerable groups

#### PLAN

Information will be collected by HNC partners in collaboration with MoH on the impact of lack of services in area C, WHO hired a consultant for 4 months to do this work.

#### GAP

Review of the health sector response, review of existing emergency preparedness and response plans to support improved emergency preparedness planning

#### PLAN

Create a web based 4Ws capturing the Health Cluster response and preparedness activities. Conduct a workshop in Gaza to discuss the emergency preparedness at national level, which will be part of WHO activities in the biennium planning of 2016 - 2017



**PROTECTION**

<b>GAP</b> Psychosocial and protection assessments with special focus on children with disabilities and girls in Gaza	<b>PLAN</b> Working group survey planned by War Child
<b>GAP</b> Numbers and cases of children and families who are victims of violence are unknown at local levels in West Bank	<b>PLAN</b> Information is shared through periodic meetings of main child protection organizations in Jerusalem. A study on the link between political violence and violence against children in scheduled to start in December 2015 by PCC
<b>GAP</b> Lack of information on response to psycho-social emergencies among children and their families in Jerusalem	<b>PLAN</b> Establishment of a Palestinian NGO body to improve emergency responses in Jerusalem. Regular periodic reporting on organizations' emergency preparedness plans and responses.

**SHELTER AND NFIS**

<b>GAP</b> How TSCA in Gaza is being used by recipients (i.e. rent/self-build/host) and level of continued need for assistance	<b>PLAN</b> IDP profiling plus verification through MoSA and MoPWH lists and comparison with UNRWA and UNDP lists
<b>GAP</b> Minor and major repairs response to the 2014 conflict where repairs were less than \$3,500	<b>PLAN</b> Verification of repairs against UNRWA/UNDP beneficiary lists

**WASH**

<b>GAP</b> WASH services among IDPs	<b>PLAN</b> The Gaza IDP re-registration and profiling exercise is partly completed and will give deeper insight into what is actually happening and to the effectiveness of the WASH services provided
<b>GAP</b> WASH services at Household level	<b>PLAN</b> A UNICEF-GVC WASH assessment at the household level in the Gaza Strip is in progress.
<b>GAP</b> Data on unserved and underserved number of people by WASH Services in Areas A, B and C of the West Bank	<b>PLAN</b> A survey to address the gap is planned under the lead of PWA
<b>GAP</b> Data on Hygiene status and awareness in Areas A, B and C of the West Bank	<b>PLAN</b> A survey to address the gap is planned under the lead of PWA to assess hygiene status, and plan hygiene awareness campaigns, as a prelude to providing integrated WASH services

This document is produced on behalf of the Humanitarian Country Team and partners.

This document provides the Humanitarian Country Team's shared understanding of the crisis, including the most pressing humanitarian need and the estimated number of people who need assistance. It represents a consolidated evidence base and helps inform joint strategic response planning.

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