



May 2016

State of Palestine

Humanitarian Situation Report

unicef 

SITUATION IN NUMBERS

Highlights

- A total of 22 Palestinian children were killed in the first quarter of 2016, and 25 in the last quarter of 2015 (30 children were killed in 2015). A total of 26 people, including nine children, were displaced due to the demolition of Palestinian houses in East Jerusalem by the Israeli authorities.
- In May, 1,880 children benefitted from child protection services including life skills support, case management and child-parent interaction programs. 2,951 caregivers attended awareness raising sessions on the protection of children and positive discipline.
- In Gaza and the West Bank, 14,341 pregnant and lactating women received micronutrient supplementation, while 2,598 children aged under five years (50% girls) benefitted from the distribution of iron drops.
- 6,760 students (57% boys, 43% girls) from 113 schools (grade five and six) coming from the most vulnerable communities in Gaza completed remedial class programmes to better prepare for June national final exams.
- In Gaza, UNICEF completed approximately 85% of the works for the rehabilitation and upgrading of water lines and networks. In the West Bank, UNICEF completed 95% of the works for the rehabilitation and extension of the existing water networks (Northern Jordan Valley), and 60% of the works in communities from Tubas, Jericho, and Bethlehem.
- UNICEF has nearly completed the construction of a EUR 10 million seawater desalination plant in Gaza, to cover over 75,000 Palestinians with safe drinking water.
- The controls and restrictions on importation of supplies remain one of the key challenges.

17 June, 2016

1,000,000

of children affected out of

3,200,000

of people affected

(OCHA April 2015)

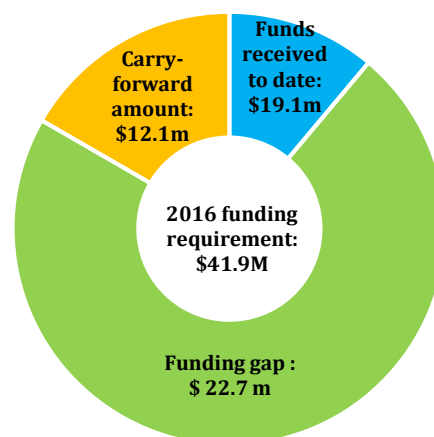
250,000

of children targeted out of

450,000

of people targeted

(UNICEF Humanitarian Action for Children 2016)

UNICEF Appeal 2016***US\$ 41.9 million****2016 funds available**

*Funds available includes funding received for the current appeal year as well as the carry-forward from the previous year.

Situation Overview & Humanitarian Needs

On 22 May, the Israeli authorities announced the lifting of the ban on the import of cement to the Gaza Strip for the private sector. By the end of April 2016, 4,064 homes (about 23 per cent) have been reconstructed or repaired with UN and other international support. Approximately 18,000 homes were destroyed or severely damaged in 2014. The Egyptian-controlled Rafah Crossing continued to be closed during the reporting period, except on 11 and 12 May. At least 30,000 people, including around 9,500 medical cases, and 2,700 students, are registered and waiting to cross, according to the Palestinian authorities.

In East Jerusalem (EJ), the Israeli authorities demolished three Palestinians homes and one praying room, for the stated reason that they did not have Israeli building permits, displacing 26 Palestinians, including nine children. Since the beginning of 2016, a total of 72 structures were demolished in EJ, including three on “punitive grounds”. In the West Bank, the number of Palestinian structures that have been demolished or confiscated by Israeli Security Forces in 2016 has increased in trend compared to 2015. To date, at least 900 Palestinians have been displaced. The demolition and removal of water wells, solar panels and animal shelters has impacted the livelihoods of over 2,500 Palestinians.

Humanitarian leadership and coordination

UNICEF, as part of the UN Country Team, coordinates with the Palestinian Government to support its role in humanitarian response, early recovery and reconstruction. UNICEF leads the WASH cluster in close collaboration with the Palestinian Water Authority and co-leads the Education Cluster with Save the Children in Gaza. At the national level, Education Cluster has transitioned to sector working group, Co-Chaired by the Ministry of Education and Higher Education (MOEHE) and UNICEF, responsible for coordinating emergency response. UNICEF also leads the Child Protection Working Group and affiliated groups on Mental Health and Psychosocial Services (MHPSS), and on Monitoring and Reporting of Grave Violations against children (Children and Armed Conflict reporting mechanism). UNICEF co-leads the Nutrition Working Group under the Health Cluster, in close collaboration with the Ministry of Health and WFP, in Gaza and at the national level. UNICEF is leading Cluster transitioning in WASH and Education in the West Bank, through capacity building towards increased Government ownership and more effective coordination.

Humanitarian Strategy

UNICEF promotes 'resilience-focused development', providing children and families with what they need to be better prepared for and better manage crises, and recover from them more rapidly. It requires addressing the underlying drivers of inequity and fragility that cause grave violations, social deprivation and stresses. It also means bridging the arbitrary divide between development and humanitarian assistance, integrating risk factors into programming, and strengthening systems that can anticipate as well as absorb shocks in the event of conflict, violence or disasters.

In Palestine, UNICEF ensures complementarity with national efforts in the most vulnerable communities, especially in Gaza, Area C of the West Bank and East Jerusalem. UNICEF provides technical expertise and support in strengthening child protection systems and services, including case management and referrals. Monitoring and reporting on grave violations against children informs evidence-based advocacy for improved protection of children, as well as programming. Children crossing checkpoints in the West Bank are protected to ensure safer access to schools. Children affected by conflict benefit from education supplies and remedial learning. Adolescents engage in learning and recreational programmes, to become agents of positive change in communities. UNICEF also supports the rehabilitation of water and sewage systems in affected communities in Gaza and the West Bank. In addition, UNICEF supports the provision of essential and life-saving paediatric medicines and medical consumables; micronutrient supplementation and infant and young child feeding for children and women in Gaza.

Summary Analysis of Programme response

Education and Adolescents

In partnership with the international NGOs Ecumenical Accompaniment Programme in Palestine (EAPPI) and Christian Peacemaker Teams (CPT), UNICEF continued to provide protective presence to 4,334 children and 333 teachers on their way to and from school in the West Bank.

In cooperation with the Ministry of Education and Higher Education (MoEHE), UNICEF supported remedial classes in Arabic language and Mathematics in Gaza, benefitting 6,760 students (57% boys and 43% girls) from 113 schools (grade five and 6). UNICEF and the MoEHE prioritized children experiencing learning difficulties and low achievements at school.

Within the Adolescent Development and Participation programme (ADAP), 5,120 adolescents (33% girls) led non-violence campaign activities to raise awareness on prevention and elimination of violence, including bullying, domestic violence, and early child marriage. Anti-violence campaigns took place in Gaza and the West Bank, and included community discussions between adolescents and adults, including sports event.

Child Protection



Mothers, children participate in activities at a mobile family center in Juhor Ad Dik, a vulnerable community located next to the Access Restricted Area in Gaza.

During the reporting period, the 28 Family Centres, supported by UNICEF, Ma'an and Tamer, reached 377 children with psychosocial support, including both group and individual counseling in Gaza. Since January 2016, the programme reached 31,755 children (49% girls). Additionally, 1,880 children received child protection services, such as life skills, case management and child/parent interaction programs. From January to May, 6,094 children (49% boys) benefited including 1,030 vulnerable children who received case management services. UNICEF supported the organization of awareness raising sessions in partnership with the Family Centres. As a result, 2,951 caregivers (52% male and 48% female) gained knowledge on protection of children and positive discipline.

Six UNRWA supported refugee camps, most affected by clashes and violence with the Israeli Defense Forces (IDF), were identified and involved in a "Know your Rights" programme. The objective of this initiative is to raise awareness among children about their rights, and support them to build coping strategies and resilience against violence. In May, 476 children (363 boys, 113 girls) from Qalandia, Jenin, Jalazon, and Al Arroub refugee camps attended the sessions. Children shared their concerns and experience about the lack of security and safety, repeated episodes of violence, and arrests of young boys.



Boys from Al Arroub School attend the "Know your Rights" sessions organized with UNRWA. Photo: UNRWA.

Following the earlier completion of the Child Protection mapping in seven governorates across Gaza and the West Bank, UNICEF facilitated a two-day planning workshop in Gaza. The technical working group, composed of national child protection experts, both from government and civil society, met and developed a draft action plan to strengthen the

social welfare sector to respond to the needs of vulnerable children and families. This will be harmonized with a similar action planning workshop in the West Bank.

In partnership with the Norwegian Refugee Council (NRC), UNICEF supported a series of trainings towards the roll out of the 'Inter-agency Standard Operating Procedures for Child Protection and Gender Based Violence' case management in Gaza. So far, three Training of Trainers were organized targeting 61 school counselors and their supervisors working in schools in vulnerable areas. At least 125 social workers working with the Ministry of Social Affairs also gained new knowledge.

Data provided by the Working Group on Grave Violations (WGGV) against children documented 516 incidents affecting at least 1,700 children since the beginning of the year.



95% of the rehabilitation and extension of water networks with ACF in Tubas, West Bank, has been completed.

Water, Sanitation and Hygiene

In Gaza, UNICEF and the Coastal Municipalities Water Utility (CMWU) continued the works to upgrade the Al Zahra sewage pumping station. Due to the temporary suspension of import of the cement, the remaining works will be finalized in January 2017. The pumping station will treat the wastewater for around 10,700 people.

Reconstruction work continued in three wells in Khan Younis, Maghazi and Dier AlBalah which had been destroyed during the last war in Gaza. In coordination with CMWU, UNICEF supported the installation of the well pumps in Maghazi and Dier AlBalah. The remaining electromechanical works including the activation of generators and connection to the networks in all three locations will be completed by early September 2016.

In Nusseirat and Rafah, UNICEF and CMWU completed approximately 85% of the works for the rehabilitation and upgrading of the water lines and water networks. In May, CMWU installed additional 1,190 meter pipes. In light of the temporary ban to import cement in Gaza, works will be completed towards the end of July.¹ UNICEF coordinated with its partners and national counterparts to identify measures limiting the impact of the ban on the overall WASH planning².

In the Gaza Strip, UNICEF has nearly completed the construction of a EUR 10 million seawater desalination plant, which will provide over 75,000 Palestinians with safe drinking water in Rafah and Khan Younis³. Since March 2014, UNICEF and its partners, the Palestinian Water Authority and the Coastal Municipalities Water Utilities, have completed the construction of a 2000m³ storage tank for desalinated water, several administrative and operational buildings, power transmission and electrical systems, water distribution and seawater desalination systems based on the reverse osmosis process. The testing is expected to start in June.

¹ The April Situation Report informed works would be completed by end of June. Given the limited progress made in May, the total number of beneficiaries remains unvaried (581 households as per previous Situation Report).

² For example, the rehabilitation works of the wastewater networks in Khan Younis and Rafah were temporarily suspended and will be reactivated in June. Since the start of 2016, almost 80% of the works have been completed, including 13,007 meters of UPVC pipes; to date, 721 households have access to improved sanitation services and systems (source: UNICEF State of Palestine, Situation Report, April 2016).

³ With funding from the European Union.

In the West Bank, including the North Jordan Valley, UNICEF continued the rehabilitation and extension of the existing water networks. In partnership with the international NGO, Action Contre le Faim (ACF), 95% of the works have been completed. This intervention will provide 2,854 people with increased access to safe water.

UNICEF and the international NGO Gruppo Volontariato Civile (GVC) completed approximately 60% of the rehabilitation and construction works of the water networks in selected communities from Tubas, Jericho, and Bethlehem. This project will benefit 4,200 people living in the communities surrounding the water pipes.

Child Health & Nutrition

UNICEF continued to provide essential, life-saving supplies to the public health facilities in Gaza and the West Bank. In Gaza, UNICEF supplied 351,440 bottles of normal saline infusion which will serve up to 150,000 women and children under five to the Ministry of Health (MoH). In the West Bank, the Ministry of Health used UNICEF-procured supplies to provide medical treatment to 26,193 of women, including under five children (70% of beneficiaries). In May, 14,341 pregnant and lactating women received micronutrient supplementation at the primary and secondary healthcare level. 2,598 under five children (50% girls) were administered iron drops to prevent anemia.



A mother receives supplementation for her child at the Al Daraj Clinic run by national NGO (NECC in the Gaza Strip).

Within the national breastfeeding promotion programme, 5,516 women in Gaza and the West Bank gained knowledge about breastfeeding and infant young child feeding practices. Paramedical staff working in primary and secondary health facilities conducted counselling sessions. In partnership with the national NGOs Near East Council of Churches (NECC) and Union of Health Workers Committee (UHCW), UNICEF supported postnatal home visits. As a result, skilled midwives provided 688 women with counselling on mother's health.

In collaboration with the Ard El Insan Child Nutrition Centre and NECC, UNICEF provided therapeutic feeding to 429 malnourished children in Gaza. UNICEF distributed additional 168,000 sachets of Ready-to-Use Therapeutic Food (RUTF) and 63,900 Plumpy Sup sachets to the Ard El Insan Centre to prevent and reduce the risk of severe acute malnutrition. These supplies will ensure the effective management of 3,200 malnourished children featuring different levels of malnutrition for the next six months.

To strengthen the quality and access of neonatal care, UNICEF supplied the Salfet and Yatta public hospitals in Gaza with essential medical equipment, including but not limited to: incubators, phototherapy units and transport incubators. The neonatal care units of both hospitals assist an average of 20 new-borns per month.

Communications for Development (C4D)

A cross-sectoral country-level Communication for Development (C4D) Strategy was finalized in May 2016, with a focus on two priorities: violence against children and Early Childhood Development. In the WASH sector, under the Seawater desalination plant project in Gaza, a specific C4D strategy with defined activities and budget were finalized with the CMWU, who will implement it with UNICEF guidance. The strategy aims at increasing safe handling and water conservation practices, and at raising awareness in relation to quality supply of safe drinking water.

Supply and Logistics

UNICEF SoP completed a supply contingency plan, as part of emergency preparedness. A new warehouse facility with larger storage capacity was secured in Gaza for emergency prepositioned supplies. All Gaza emergency supplies previously kept in Ashdod have been transferred to Gaza. In addition, the validity of the existing long term arrangements for the

transportation and delivery of supplies in Gaza has been extended for additional 24 months. A market survey exercise for the expansion of the vendor base and evaluation of existing vendors was concluded. The controls and restrictions on importation of supplies remain one of the key challenges in the supply chain delivery. Supplies perceived to be susceptible for dual use take longer time to secure approvals from the relevant authorities. To date, six water tankering trucks ordered in November 2015 for humanitarian assistance in Gaza are yet to be approved.

Media and External Communication

The impact of the conflict on children continued to be the main focus of advocacy in May. Two Bulletins on Children and Armed Conflict (CAAC) covering grave violations against Palestinian and Israeli children in the second semester of 2015 were released. Local and foreign media wrote about the increasing number of arrest and military detention of Palestinian children, and noted the high number of Palestinian child casualties in the West Bank, including East Jerusalem, at the end of 2015. UNICEF briefed Government Officials, EU member states and diplomats on child protection issues, including grave violations against children and restrictions on access to education.

Security

During May 2016, the situation continued to be tense across the State of Palestine, with several demonstrations and clashes, particularly in the West Bank and East Jerusalem. The majority of the clashes occurred during demonstrations commemorating the 68th anniversary of the 1948 “Nakba”. A 17-year-old Palestinian girl was shot dead by the Israeli Border Police in Jerusalem. Since the beginning of 2016, 52 Palestinian were killed by Israeli forces, compared to 89 in the last quarter of 2015. At least 49 Palestinians, including four children and one woman, were injured by Israeli forces. A total of 22 Palestinian children were killed in the first quarter of 2016, and 25 in the last quarter of 2015 (30 children in total were killed in 2015). In the Israeli-controlled H2 area of Hebron city, a group of Israeli settlers entered a Palestinian house and physically assaulted and injured a 16-year-old Palestinian boy and his father. The situation in Gaza also remained volatile.

Funding

Appeal Sector	SoP - UNICEF HAC 2016 Funding Requirements			
	Requirements (USD)	Funds Available * (USD)	Funding Gap	
			USD	%
WASH	16,994,402	9,348,228	7,646,174	45%
Education	9,763,664	2,664,212	7,099,452	73%
Child Protection	3,569,000	2,888,082	680,918	19%
Health and Nutrition	9,317,700	3,781,699	5,536,001	59%
Cluster Coordination	2,280,105	478,440	1,801,665	79%
Sub-Total	41,924,871	19,160,661	22,764,210	54%

* Funds available includes funding received for the current appeal year as well as the carry-forward from the previous year. Total carry-forward amount: USD 12,149,704.

Next SitRep: 14/7/2016

UNICEF State of Palestine: <http://www.unicef.org/oPt>

UNICEF State of Palestine on Facebook: <https://www.facebook.com/unicefstateofpalestine>

UNICEF State of Palestine on Twitter: <https://twitter.com/UNICEFpalestine>

UNICEF Humanitarian Action for Children 2016: http://www.unicef.org/appeals/state_of_palestine.html

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<https://www.facebook.com/unicefstateofpalestine>

ANNEX A - SUMMARY OF PROGRAMME RESULTS

		Cluster Response			UNICEF and IPs		
	Overall needs	2016 Target	Total Results	Change since last report ▲▼	2016 Target	Total Results	Change since last report ▲▼
WATER, SANITATION & HYGIENE	1,700,000						
# of people in humanitarian situation benefited from improved access to water	732,000	518,000	256,620	4,395	96,436	8,895	180
# of people in humanitarian situation benefited from improved access to sanitation services	600,000	358,000	25,299	6,540	58,818	9,252	600
# of beneficiaries provided with sanitation /hygiene items (hygiene kits / vouchers)	200,000	120,000	69,418	0	53,600	53,136	0
# of people in water-scarce areas in the West Bank benefited from access to safe drinking water	307,340	114,408	56,295	0	141,468	3,108	0
EDUCATION	600,000						
# of children benefited from provision of supplies and materials	400,118	121,025	89,980	57,705	90,000	65,788	57,705
# of children and teachers benefiting from protective presence / accompaniment to school	5,692	4,700	4,667	0	4,700	4,667	0
# of adolescents participating in life-skills building and community based activities	230,254	30,000	2,127	34	30,000	2,127	0
# of children benefited from remedial education	70,000	254,136	15,427	6,760	20,000	6,760	0
HEALTH and NUTRITION	1,400,000						
# of children and women benefiting from emergency health care services / supplies	1,400,000	272,263	235,751	76,003	240,000	235,751	15,000
# of children and women who have received micronutrient supplements	250,000	250,000	64,738	39,038	250,000	64,738	7,600
# of children provided with life –saving neonate care services	55,000	50,000	1,804	1,000	10,000	1,804	0
CHILD PROTECTION	1,800,000						
# of children / adolescents benefited from psychosocial support services.	282,000	94,542	45,581	436	60,000	31,755	377
# of children / caregivers receiving protection services through community based family centers and Government led Child Protection Networks (CPN)	210,000	200,000	33,017	6,791	100,075	25,209	4,831
# of incidents of grave violations against children monitored and documented	2,500	2,500	516	0	2,500	516	0
# of children / caregivers reached through ERW/UXO risk education messages	550,000	266,162	38,120	6,021	212,352	37,091	6,021