

OCCUPIED PALESTINIAN TERRITORY: HUMANITARIAN DASHBOARD

(JANUARY – DECEMBER 2018)

KEY FIGURES

PEOPLE IN NEED AND REACHED



2.5 million
people estimated to need humanitarian assistance



1.9 million
people targeted for humanitarian aid



1.9 people estimated to have received humanitarian aid* (of those targeted: 0.5 million people in West Bank and 1.4 million people in Gaza).

* The estimated total number of people reached was calculated, by considering that each beneficiary has received interventions from all clusters/sectors.

HUMANITARIAN RESPONSE PLAN FUNDING 2018

2018 OVERALL FUNDING



539.7 million
US\$ required



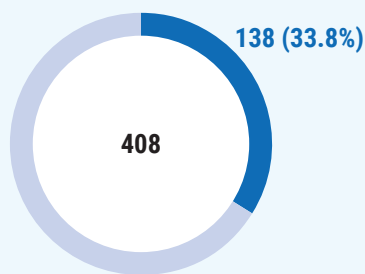
44.4%
Funded



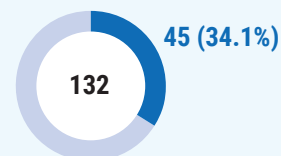
240 million
\$ received

FUNDING BY LOCATION (\$ MILLION)

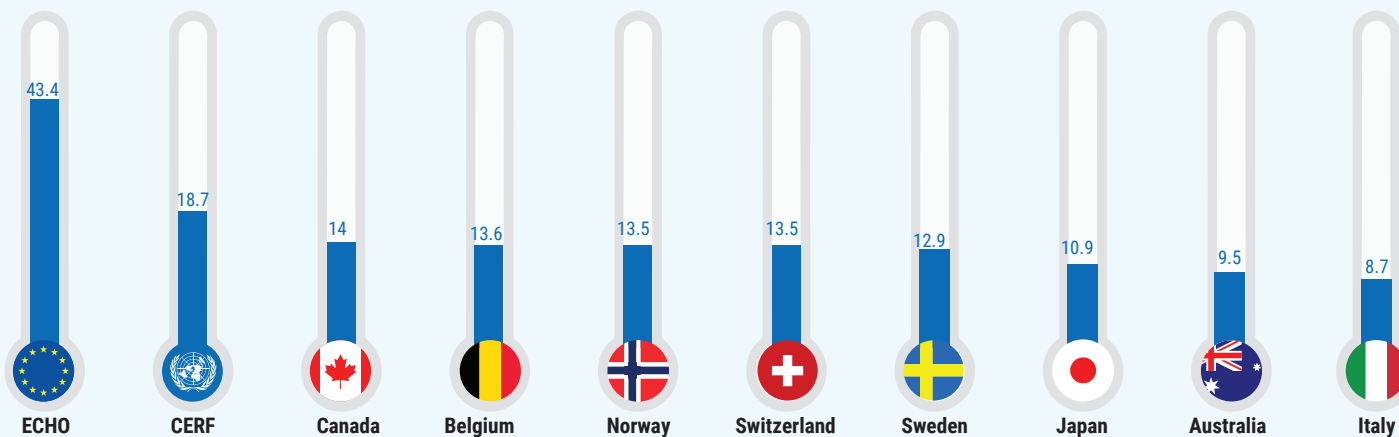
Projects covering Gaza Strip



Projects covering West Bank



KEY DONORS & CONTRIBUTIONS (\$ MILLION)



FUNDING and BENEFICIARIES 2018

REQUIREMENTS BY CLUSTER (MILLION \$)

COVERAGE

PEOPLE REACHED (THOUSAND PEOPLE)

Cluster	Requirements (Million \$)	Coverage	People Reached (Thousand)	People Reached (Thousand)		Men	Women	Children	Partners (Organization)
				West Bank	Gaza	Icon	Icon	Icon	Icon
Protection	18.9 / 41	46.2%	1,152	519,668	632,332	323,136	310,464	518,400	40
WASH	12.3 / 45.5	27%	88	30	58	19	20	49	19
Health and Nutrition	20.2 / 27	73.4%	163	71	92	32	45	86	26
Food Security	127 / 289	42.2%	1,340	162	1,177	682	657	600	26
Education	11 / 20.3	53.2%	315	28	287	0.5	1	314	15
Shelter and NFIs	12 / 90	8.9%	37	8	29	N/A	N/A	N/A	21
Coordination	7.2 / 27.2	26.5%							

*Some data on gender and age disaggregation are missing so figures of people reached by gender/age do not necessarily match the total number of people reached.

OVERVIEW

Gaza Strip

In the Gaza Strip, after years of a relative absence of armed conflict there was a sharp deterioration in the humanitarian, human rights, security and political situation in 2018. This was primarily due to an enormous rise in Palestinian casualties, as a result of the “Great March of Return” demonstrations at the fence between Gaza and Israel; continuing restrictions on the movement of people and goods in and out of Gaza, associated with the 11-year blockade imposed by Israel on Gaza, citing security concerns; and the imposition of restrictions by the Palestinian Authority (PA). Between 30 March and end December, 254 Palestinians, including 46 children, were killed by Israeli forces in the demonstrations and other circumstances. Over 23,000 Palestinians were injured, including over 6,700 wounded by live ammunition, overwhelming the already overstretched health sector in Gaza.¹ Patients referred outside for medical treatment unavailable in Gaza, especially those injured in the demonstrations, continue to face major access constraints through the Israeli-controlled Erez crossing, with only about 60 per cent approved in 2018.² Access restrictions in Gaza have only partly been alleviated by the re-opening of the Egyptian-controlled Rafah crossing almost continuously since May, where passengers are subject to unclear selection criteria, challenging crossing procedures and long delays. Although some participants in the demonstrations have launched incendiary and explosive devices and breached the perimeter fence into Israel, the large number of casualties among unarmed participants who pose no imminent threat of life or deadly injury to Israeli soldiers, has raised concerns about the excessive use of force and calls for an independent and transparent investigation into these incidents.³

For much of 2018, power cuts of 18-20 hours a day impeded the delivery of basic services and crippled productive activity, with hospitals, water and sewage

treatment facilities, and solid waste collection services almost completely reliant on UN-coordinated emergency fuel to maintain essential services: since October, the delivery of fuel funded by Qatar has provided a welcome, if temporary, improvement in the electricity supply. The coastal aquifer, Gaza’s sole water source, has been virtually depleted by over-extraction and the intrusion of seawater, forcing the impoverished population to buy trucked water, often of poor quality, at up to 20 times the expense of water from the network.⁴ Israel’s 11-year-long land, air and sea blockade, imposed following the violent takeover of Gaza by Hamas, has crippled the economy, resulting in high levels of unemployment, food insecurity and aid dependency. The Gaza economy is in ‘free fall’ according to the World Bank,⁵ with unemployment reaching 54 per cent in the second quarter of 2018, and over 70 per cent of young people and 78 per cent of women unemployed. Poverty has soared to 53 per cent and food insecurity to 68 per cent. Severely reduced purchasing power is compounded by the PA’s policy of withholding the payment of salaries and allowances to employees, alongside a cut in reconstruction and development aid, particularly by the US government, with the real income of a Palestinian in Gaza now about 30 per cent less than it was in 1999.⁶ There is a palpable loss of hope and rising desperation among the population in Gaza, which is eroding coping mechanisms and resilience, while rising violence and tension are fueling concerns of a renewed escalation of hostilities.

West Bank

In the West Bank, including East Jerusalem, Israel’s direct military occupation continues, and with it the appropriation of land and resources. While the humanitarian situation is less grave than in Gaza, the economy “is expected to slow considerably in the coming period,” according to the World Bank.⁷ Standards of living, economic growth and employment prospects

continued to be undermined by limitations on access to land, while freedom of movement is significantly restricted by a multi-layered system of administrative, bureaucratic and physical constraints imposed by Israel, citing security concerns. The PA is prevented from operating in East Jerusalem and Area C, which represent more than 60 per cent of the West Bank and contain the territory's most valuable natural resources. After a decline in recent years, settler violence resulting in Palestinian casualties or in damage to property is increasing with 280 incidents recorded in 2018, compared with 197 in all of 2017.⁸

The demolition of residential, livelihood and service infrastructure continued in the West Bank, including East Jerusalem. Overall, during 2018, OCHA documented the demolition or seizure of 460 Palestinian-owned structures in the West Bank, a 10 per cent increase compared to 2017. Of all structures targeted during 2018, 56 were donor-funded humanitarian aid structures, representing a 46 per cent decline, compared to 2017 figures. Displacement as a result of demolitions decreased by almost 30 per cent, compared to 2017. Demolitions represent one element of a coercive environment affecting many Palestinians throughout the West Bank, including East Jerusalem, which include the restrictions on access to natural resources; the denial of basic service infrastructure; and the lack of secure residency promotion of plans to relocate communities to urban townships, with the case of Khan al Ahmar–Abu al Helu most prominent in 2018.⁹ These practices are often implemented against a backdrop of the establishment and expansion of Israeli settlements. The coercive environment has also resulted in instances of forcible transfer of Palestinians from their homes in the settlement area of Hebron city, reducing a once thriving area to a 'ghost town'. This deterioration in 2018 throughout the oPt is exacerbated by significant shortfalls in donor support for the Palestinian Authority (PA), UNRWA and humanitarian operations in general, undermining the ability of the international community to effectively respond to increasing need. All these developments are accompanied by increasing restrictions and attacks on humanitarian partners, which are generating an increasingly constrained operational context.

Critical Challenges

As a result of declining humanitarian funds, targets assigned in the 2018 Humanitarian Response Plan were only met partially across all sectors. Against the backdrop of continued deterioration in the humanitarian situation in the oPt, coupled with a significant funding shortfall, relevant humanitarian actors have not been able to scale up operations respond ensure full coverage of increased needs.

The heightened levels of conflict-related violence in the context of a protracted humanitarian crisis continues to result in high levels of psychosocial stress, as well as physical impact – especially in Gaza – with the overall need to strengthen multi-sectoral responses. Several actors continue to face challenges in accessing some of the most vulnerable populations due to movement and access restrictions.

Since the 'Great March of Return' (GMR) demonstrations, which began on 30th March 2018 in Gaza, needs for Child protection and MHPSS services have grown significantly. In the West Bank, an increase in settler violence, as well as continued demolitions, confiscations and forced evictions continued to contribute to a coercive environment for Palestinian communities in Area C, H2 and East Jerusalem, resulting in a need to strengthen the protection response, including monitoring and documentation, MHPSS and legal aid. During 2018 alone, 490 people were forcibly displaced in East Jerusalem and Area C by Israeli authorities. In addition, changes in the judicial system and Israeli policies which took effect in 2018 threaten to hamper access to justice for Palestinians in the West Bank in particular, and put at risk the effectiveness of legal aid in preventing forcible transfer and securing remedy. Also in the West Bank, the application of new Israeli military orders in Area C and East Jerusalem continues to restrict the shelter upgrade interventions, construction of residential, livelihood and basic service infrastructure and results in the destruction, confiscation or seizure of homes and other property.

In Gaza, the chronic housing shortages and the dire economic situation as a result of more than ten-year long blockade, and three major escalations of conflict, have

compounded concerns for adequate shelter protection for acutely vulnerable families. Due to funding limitations and the risks in area C, shelter cluster partners were able to reach only 13 per cent of their target in providing some sort of adequate shelter assistance to those most in need and prioritized. However, this means that around 27,000 acutely- vulnerable families in the West Bank and Gaza are still living in sub-standard housing conditions that are further exposing them to protection concerns or living in unhygienic conditions.

The low achievements have a negative impact on the IDPs who suffer from multiple displacement because they cannot afford the rental costs. The female headed households and children are those most affected for the inability to access to other options. Also, the change in funding mechanisms to give priority to UNRWA, USAID funds cuts lead to further suffering of the marginalized groups both in West Bank and Gaza.

Restrictions placed on the entry of construction materials into Gaza continue to affect projects in Gaza; especially where those items are needed that are listed as dual-use affect both humanitarian interventions and the reconstruction WASH projects in Gaza.

Political situation in the Gaza Strip, characterized by the escalation of violence by the occupation army in the days of the Great Return March, has not facilitated operations and slowed some response implementations.

The Health status in Gaza remained severely deteriorating due to the protracted crisis of blockade and access restrictions; shortages in drugs, consumables, laboratory reagents and medical equipment; electricity crisis and shortage of fuel to run the standby electric generators; shortages in human resources and absence of advanced medical treatment and technology; and the salary cuts of employees due to financial deficit or political division. In addition, the difficult procedures to obtain Israeli permits for the emergency medical teams to enter Gaza led to cancellation of missions and hindered the reach of some projects objectives and targeted beneficiaries.

Women, children, elderly and persons with disabilities are critically affected by insufficient access to basic health services. The knowledge that health access may be difficult and risky also serves as a psychological stressor and can affect health directly.

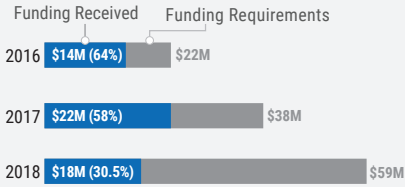
Pressure and threats faced by Protective Presence partners mainly in H2 area of Hebron, might negatively affect their capacity to continue to deliver this service. This will result in increased protection risks for children commuting to school.

STRATEGIC OBJECTIVES

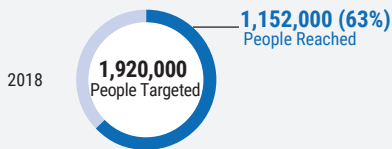
1

Protect the rights of Palestinians under occupation in accordance with International Humanitarian Law and International Human Rights Law.

Funding



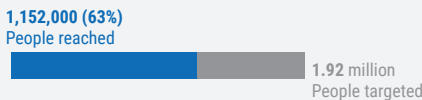
People Reached



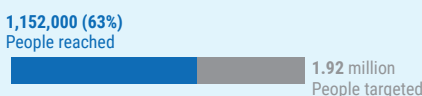
People Reached 2018



Percentage of people requiring protection interventions (GBV, Child Protection, MHPSS, Legal Aid)



Total

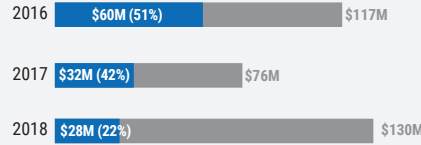


* The Protection Cluster provides legal assistance to households facing demolition and eviction orders in the West Bank and therefore, the number of people targeted changes throughout the year.

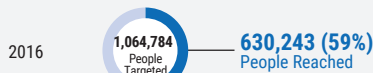
2

Ensure acutely vulnerable Palestinians under occupation in the Gaza Strip and the West Bank have access to essential services.

Funding



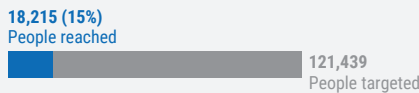
People Reached



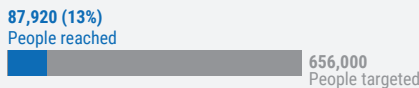
People Reached 2018



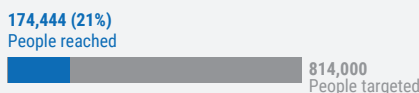
Percentage of assisted families reporting an improvement in living conditions, Percentage of assisted HH living in upgraded units in accordance with minimum standards



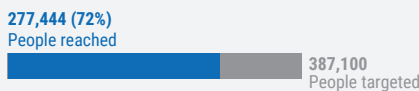
Percentage of vulnerable people with access to safe drinking and domestic water services and benefiting from improved access to sanitation and hygiene services



Percentage of vulnerable people in West Bank and Gaza accessing quality and affordable essential health by type of service, including nutrition, maternal and child health, reproductive health, mental health, health care for elderly, and rehabilitation services for people with disabilities (PWD)



Percentage of vulnerable students and teachers with improved access to school



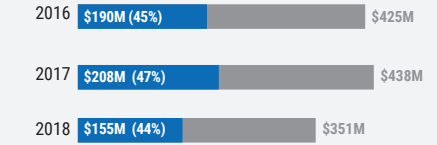
Total



3

Strengthen the ability of acutely vulnerable Palestinian households to cope with protracted threats and shocks.

Funding



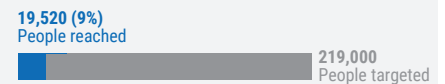
People Reached



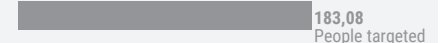
People Reached 2018



Percentage of individuals in need of support with shelter NFIs (cash/in-kind) at the onset of an emergency, Percentage of individuals able to be sheltered at DES according to agreed standards



Percentage of students who are better supported following education-related violations, escalations in the conflict or natural disaster

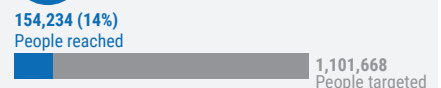


identified vulnerable communities and health facilities in West Bank and Gaza have better preparedness to cope with impact of current and future crisis

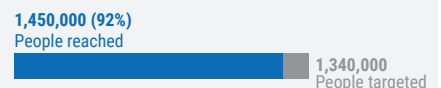
312,848 People reached



of people in need with increased WASH capacity during emergencies and shocks



of beneficiaries receiving food in-kind



Total



ANALYSIS OF PROGRESS TOWARDS STRATEGIC OBJECTIVES

Strategic Objective 1: The rights of Palestinians living under occupation, including those living under the blockade and other restrictions, are protected, respected and promoted in accordance with International Humanitarian Law (IHL) and International Human Rights Law (IHRL), while duty-bearers are increasingly held to account.

Protection

Analysis of achievements

Overall, Protection Cluster reached 63% of targeted people, that is equivalent to 1,152,000. Out of them: 323,000 men, 311,000 women, 518,000 – children.

In Gaza and in response to the great march of return; child protection partners collectively reached 50% of the injured children identified during the great march of return with Child Protection services. Out Of the 2,138 children reached, 259 (22 girls) were referred for specialist case management services and 544 (32 girls) for structured psychosocial support services. Out of the reached children, Family Centers have been able to reach out 322 injured children and providing Psycho-social first aid, structured psychosocial support to 32 children and specialist case management support to 116 children.

In the West Bank, child protection partners provided legal support for 397 children affected by grave violations or ill treatment.

During 2018, 41,878 Palestinians (8720 Men, 29,933 women & 3,225 Children) were provided with information about their rights and how to access legal services in both West Bank and Gaza.

There remained a high demand for legal aid services for housing, land and property rights. Despite changes in the legal aid environment, Legal Task Force members managed to respond to the increase in requests for legal services. About 6,187 people (4,933 Males, 1,254 Females) were provided with tailored legal counseling, covering 77% of the whole year target. In addition, 2,856 (2,569 Males, 287 Females) people in the West Bank subjected to demolition / eviction orders were provided with legal representation, covering 85% of the whole year target.

GBV Sub-Cluster partners have managed to provide multi-sectorial services to around 12,620 GBV survivors in the oPt.

Analysis of challenges

Generally, as a result of declining humanitarian funds, targets assigned in the humanitarian response plan for 2018 were only partially met in key areas, including for provision of psychosocial support, child protection services, and GBV responses. Against the backdrop of continued deterioration in the humanitarian situation in the oPt, coupled with a significant funding shortfall, relevant humanitarian actors have not been able to scale up operations respond ensure full coverage of increased needs.

The heightened levels of conflict-related violence in the context of a protracted humanitarian crisis continues to result in high levels of psychosocial stress, as well as the need to strengthen multi-sectoral responses for GBV survivors, particularly MHPSS, rehabilitation and reintegration programmes, which continue to be a significant gap. In addition, a decrease in referral of GBV cases from health providers has been noted, likely linked to the inability of an already over-stretched health system to respond to routine cases in the context of the emergency response to mass demonstrations.

Several protection actors continue to face challenges in accessing some of the most vulnerable populations due to movement and access restrictions.

Since the 'Great March of Return' (GMR) demonstrations, which began on 30th March 2018 in Gaza, needs for Child protection and MHPSS services have grown significantly, which resulted in a significant gap in the provision of MHPSS essential services required to support affected populations to come to terms with the traumatic events experienced, and to prevent longer-term mental illness. The Humanitarian Fund supported some partners to face the chronic humanitarian underfunding that challenged the provision of child protection services, notably those provided by family centers, which were forced to scale down due to funding shortages until November 2018.

In the West Bank an increase in settler violence, as well as continued demolitions, confiscations and forced evictions continued to contribute to a coercive environment for Palestinian communities in Area C, H2 and East Jerusalem, resulting in a need to strengthen the protection response, including monitoring and documentation, MHPSS and legal aid. During 2018 alone, 490 people were forcibly displaced in East Jerusalem and Area C by Israeli authorities.

In addition, changes in the judicial system and Israeli policies which took effect in 2018 threaten to hamper access to justice for Palestinians in the West Bank in particular, and put at risk the effectiveness of legal aid in preventing forcible transfer and securing remedy.

Recommendations for 2019

- Overall, increased funding is required for the 2019 HRP protection projects to bolster Protection Cluster responses in view of the above-mentioned funding shortfalls, challenges in the operating environment, and increased needs.
- Focused support to holistically address the needs of children through inter-sectoral cooperation and coordination.
- Support for the implementation of advocacy plans to manage risks and shrinking space around humanitarian operation space
- In the context of the latest onslaught of legislative initiatives, military orders and developments on the ground, continued efforts of stakeholders to effect change at the political level is needed alongside legal aid and other protection activities.
- Increase the capacity of the medical staff and health services providers to enhance the GBV cases referral within the health cluster members, also continue the process of building the capacity for non-GBV specialists to have a GBV lens in their community based work.
- Support for disability mainstreaming is recommended in all protection related services, with a focus on women, girls with disabilities in marginalized areas.

Education

Analysis of achievements

To enhance protection of the most vulnerable and affected communities in WB and GS, the education cluster partners were able to reach 72% of the set target under this SO. The major achievement was the capacity building and legal awareness sessions through NRC HRP project which provided legal response to attacks against education. Through the project 715 teaching and non-teaching staff (86% females) and 911 children (51% females) in WB participated in the awareness sessions on how to use alert mechanism for legal response to attacks against education. In addition, these students, schools staff and parents profited from information sessions on legal rights and protection and response to incidents/violations within the existing referral framework. people profited from legal aid and awareness raising. In addition, the Education cluster strengthened information base on the number of schools with demolition orders in Area C and EJ, which stands at 50 at the end of 2018.

Analysis of challenges

Due to the lack of funding, no interventions under this SO were conducted in GS, and the cluster was unable to train school staff on skills for monitoring, collecting data & reporting education-related violations.

Recommendations for 2019

- Increased advocacy on protection of schools from demolitions to ensure access to quality education in WB (especially in area C).
- Increase funding is required for implementing capacity building and awareness raising for education staff in monitoring and reporting education related violations, child protection interventions (especially related to individual case management), GBV related projects and legal aid for Bedouin communities in the West Bank at risk of forcible transfer/mass demolitions, and schools at risk of demolition (especially in area C).
- Support Education Cluster in establishing an independent reporting of violations mechanism to collect data and monitor education related incidents and attacks

Strategic Objective 2: The basic needs of vulnerable Palestinians living under occupation are met through the provision of quality basic services and improved access to resources, in accordance with the rights of protected persons under IHL.

Shelter and NFIs

Analysis of achievements

Only 15% of the targets has been achieved under SO2, this low progress linked mainly to the low achievements to support the IDPs with TSCA (9%), also the activities related to upgrading of substandard housing units were limited to 23% as an average for Gaza and WB. In addition, there was less targeting to repair the damaged houses in Gaza (15%).

Analysis of challenges

There is a noticeable low achievement for all the indicators. In Gaza the TSCA support to IDPs for this year was very limited (9%), justified by the need to move this case from humanitarian needs to other government support packages. For the repair of damaged housing units, also the progress is limited to 15% for the lack of sufficient funds.

In the West Bank, the application of new Israeli military orders in Area C and East Jerusalem continues to restrict the shelter upgrade interventions, construction of residential, livelihood and basic service infrastructure and results in the destruction, confiscation or seizure of homes and other property. In Gaza, the chronic housing shortages and the dire economic situation as a result of more than ten-year long blockade, and three major escalations of conflict, have compounded concerns for adequate shelter protection for acutely vulnerable families. Due to funding limitations and the risks in area C, shelter cluster partners were able to reach only 13 per cent of their target in providing some sort of adequate shelter assistance to those most in need and prioritized. However, this means that around 27,000 acutely-vulnerable families in the West Bank and Gaza are still living in sub-standard housing conditions that are further exposing them to protection concerns or living in unhygienic conditions.

The low achievements have a negative impact on the IDPs who suffer from multiple displacement because

they cannot afford the rental costs. The FHH and children are those most affected for the inability to access to other options. Also, the change in funding mechanisms to give priority to UNRWA, USAID funds cuts lead to further suffering of the marginalized groups both in WB and Gaza.

Recommendations for 2019

- Surveys show increasing needs to support the people negatively impacted by the socioeconomic conditions and risk displacement and protection. Additional funding required to address the prioritized and urgent needs in Shelter/NFIs sector.
- Improve the advocacy initiatives for the right of people living in area C to have adequate and sustainable shelter solutions considering the current needs and the natural growth.
- Improving access to construction materials is essential to open the way to work opportunities and economic improvement /development in Gaza and therefore leading to resilience of affected people to be less dependent on shelter assistance.

WASH

Analysis of achievements

1.9 million Persons in Gaza benefited indirectly of emergency fuel supply to operate 140 water and wastewater facilities. Approximately 3,144,106 liters of emergency fuel distributed till end of Dec 2018.

Hygiene awareness sessions and public environmental health campaigns were held and addressed to 43,868 people, 296,203 of people with increased access to safe drinking/domestic water services and 40,475 of people with increased access to sanitation services.

WASH Cluster forms two technical working groups related to WASH in Health and Solar energy in WASH action to address WASH information gaps in HRP 2018. WASH guidelines in designated emergency shelters (DES) and urban displacement was finalized.

About 2.4 million USD\$ were consider to Provision of 25 solar energy sources to critical WASH facilities and to mitigate the impact of the electricity crisis on the access to water located in vulnerable and underserved communities in Gaza Strip.

Analysis of challenges

The energy crises daily have significantly impacted on the availability of clean water supply. Water distributed through the water network, reaches most homes for approximately a few hours every 3 to 5 days; and desalination plants are functioning partially at less than 10-20 per cent of their maximum capacity. The shortening or suspension of sewage treatment cycles has led to increased levels of contamination of groundwater sources and to the Mediterranean Sea, leaving over 95% of water sources too contaminated for human consumption and more than 74% of the sea around Gaza contaminated with partially treated sewage. The trend of fuel consumption has rapidly increased as the population in the Gaza Strip increases and the availability of electricity through the public grid decreases and is unable to cope with the high demands.

The cluster funding gap in the West Bank and in the Gaza Strip hindered the possibility of reaching the set targets for 2018 and to cover Cluster response priorities, despite the deteriorating WASH situation in Gaza and the West Bank. In addition to the limited operational and maintenance capacity of service providers in Gaza. Noting that the needs of targeted families in the Gaza Strip are not limited to hygiene sector but are the cause of high vulnerability in more than one sector: access to and storage of water supply, shelters conditions, educational level, lack of reliable sources of income into the families

Restrictions placed on the entry of construction materials into Gaza continue to affect WASH projects in Gaza; the WASH items listed as dual-use affect both humanitarian interventions and the reconstruction WASH projects in Gaza. Development restrictions and demolition incidents in Area C also continue to adversely affect provision of WASH services to communities in Area C.

Political situation in the Gaza Strip, characterized by the escalation of violence by the occupation army in the days of the Great Return March, has not facilitated operations and slowed the implementation of WASH response.

Recommendations for 2019

- Donors interface is a key to fund WASH cluster in order to achieve the Cluster HRP target.
- Electricity supply is a key to operate water and wastewater in Gaza and donors to support the WASH facilities functionality till concern parties finding a solution.
- Easing the blockade in Gaza and allowing WASH materials importing to implement WASH HRP activities.
- WASH incidents in area C in West Bank is Cluster concern where humanitarian communities need to advocate with the Government of Israel.
- To respond for potential escalation in Gaza Strip.

Health and Nutrition

Analysis of achievements

Despite the limited fund of HRP projects (35%), and the shifted fund to respond to the new crisis of mass demonstration casualties, the HNC partners were able to provide more than 29,000 emergency and trauma patients with lifesaving treatment through the provision of drugs, medical supplies, emergency medical teams and rehabilitation services. In part, this response was on the expense of other services that could have benefit from the fund. One example of that is the piling up of the waiting list of elective surgeries from 2000 in the beginning of 2018, to more than 8,000 at the end of 2018.

The Health Cluster was able to reach less than 13% of the targeted population due to the fact that 80% of the funded 14 projects received the fund in the last quarter of 2018, which didn't give them the time to reach high number of beneficiaries. However, partners were able to reach and provide services to 8,385 neonate patients and more than 8,700 non-communicable disease patients in Gaza, through the provision of drugs, disposables and equipment for appropriate diagnosis and treatment.

#In West Bank where the access to basic health services remains a critical challenge for Palestinians living in Area C, H2 and seam zone, particularly for communities located close to settlements, the separation wall, closed military areas, or areas closed by gates. Yet in 2018, the

than 28,000 injuries among Palestinian demonstrators and created extra burden to the health system. The new crisis played a major role in reprioritizing needs, shifting donated funds and changed the response strategy; all of which affected negatively the reach of the targeted HRP beneficiaries.

The difficult procedures to obtain Israeli permits for the emergency medical teams to enter Gaza, led to cancellation of missions and hindered the reach of some projects objectives and targeted beneficiaries.

Meanwhile, in the West Bank, access to **basic health services** remained a critical challenge for Palestinians living in Area C, H2 and seam zone, particularly for communities located close to settlements, the separation wall, closed military areas, or areas closed by gates. Women, children, elderly and persons with disabilities are critically affected by poor health access. Women are most vulnerable during pregnancy, childbirth and newborn care, sick children and infants may also need emergency care at night, and the elderly, chronically ill and disabled depend on others for access. The knowledge that health access may be difficult and risky also serves as a psychological stressor and can affect health directly.

Recommendations for 2019

- The Reserve allocation and Humanitarian pooled fund, should be open and directed to the HRP projects only, where CERF fund can be directed to HRP and non HRP emergency projects, so that the HRP process will not lose its value and importance.
- The donors and HF should aim to fund projects from the beginning of the year and not towards the end, so that partners can reach the maximum number of beneficiaries.
- The gathered data from Cluster Partners showed that substantially they have received less than the fund listed at the OCHA FTS, which calls for periodic review and validation of the FTS.

Education

Analysis of achievements

In terms of provision of access to school and safe learning spaces, the education Cluster/EIE WG partners achieved almost 81% of the set target under SO2. Protective presence was provided to 6121 students (50% girls) and 178 teachers in the West Bank on a daily basis throughout 2018. Major achievement was made in providing 309,035 students (150,826 girls) in WB and GS with emergency education supplies. Special efforts were made to reach CwD with 21 students benefitting from provision of assistive devices in GS. Finally, 9,110 student and teacher benefited from school rehabilitation (44% females) in West Bank.

Analysis of challenges

School transportation was not provided for the targeted students enrolled in restricted access schools in East Jerusalem and Area C due to lack of funds.

Restrictions on access/movement of procured emergency education materials hindered the efficient and timely humanitarian response in Gaza.

Pressure and threats faced by Protective Presence partners mainly in H2 area of Hebron, might negatively affect their capacity to continue to deliver this service. This will result in increased protection risks for children commuting to school.

Recommendations for 2019

- Funding should prioritize provision of school transportation, especially for students in area C.
- Due to the continuous restrictions on access to safe education in the West Bank, particularly in Hebron H2 area, Bethlehem and Nablus, there is a critical need for a continuous protective presence for students and school staff.
- Stronger funding support for critical interventions and cluster priorities in the HRP is needed for 2019 in WB and GS to ensure access to quality education.

Strategic Objective 3: The capacity of vulnerable Palestinians to cope with and overcome protracted crisis, including from environmental threats, is supported, while solutions to violations and other root causes of threats and shocks are pursued.

Food Security

Analysis of achievements

A total of US \$ 289 million was appealed by the Food Security Sector through the 2018 HRP to improve the food security and access to livelihoods in West Bank and Gaza Strip, which represented 53.5 % of the overall requirement for the country. According to the Financial Tracking System (FTS), only \$142 million of the requested funding was received, equivalent to 49% of the sector total request. This posed a serious threat to the achievement of 2018 objectives, especially regarding projects that are designed according to the multi-year planning approach.

The food security response strategy is articulated through three components: food assistance, cash transfers, and agriculture and livelihood support. Again, in 2018 as in the past years, FSS partners could not report full achievements of the expected results. Both cash-based (i.e. mainly cash for work) and agricultural livelihood programmes ended 2018 with 86% and 79% funding gap respectively. Food assistance is 21% underfunded, showing lower support than previous year.

The agricultural livelihood support is focused on assisting vulnerable farmers and herders in order to promote sustainable livelihoods. Under this sector, results are analysed through achievements reported for different output indicators. These indicators show a very low level of achievements, ranging from 0% to 23%. Palestinian farmers continue to be exposed to increased erosion of resilience, in addition to the risk of abandoning agricultural practices. In Gaza Strip, in 2018 the already fragile situation of farmers was further worsened, which resulted in making production inputs even more expensive, like the cost of water for irrigation that in certain cases was reported to be four times than usual.

Analysis of challenges

The modality of addressing food insecurity in Palestine remains mostly confined to responses that are able to mitigate immediate further impacts on most vulnerable food insecure people, with limited capacity of triggering longer term and more durable solutions. This results in continue and increased demand for basic assistance, as poverty increases and resilience capacity decreases. The decreased overall funds available to address food insecurity in the past years may increase the risk of having more and more severely food insecure households, with decreased ability to respond even to basic needs.

During the reporting period the livelihood component reported very limited achievements, having received approximately 21% of the requested fund. Only 9 projects supporting this objective were funded, reaching only approximately 18,000 individuals, representing less than 8% of the targeted beneficiaries. This very little number of individuals benefited from rehabilitation of productive assets and essential infrastructure for farmers, herders and fishers.

The situation in Palestine remains a protracted crisis with humanitarian consequences, driven by insufficient respect for international law and inadequate accountability. Food insecurity in Palestine is essentially a result of lack of economic access to food, originating from high levels of poverty, as well as low resilience due to the compounded livelihood-related shocks for the last 19 years.

The funding shortfall as well as the limited fund received for the food security sector in 2018 (49% for the overall FSS) have been the main obstacles in reaching the target of the sector objectives. The unstable internal and external political circumstances further worsen the humanitarian crises.

In addition to this, the blockade on Gaza Strip and the related restriction of movement of goods and persons continue to severely undermine the living conditions of the population of Gaza Strip as well as the chances to successfully proceed with the recovery process from the 2014 war. It is the main reason for the current high unemployment rates, which results in widespread poverty and consequent high level of aid dependency. In West Bank people are facing a range of serious protection threats to freedom and security, destruction or damage of homes and other forced displacement threat and consequences, as well as restrictions on freedom of movement and on access to livelihoods. In the West Bank (WB) this is mainly represented by the critical situation in Area C, while in Gaza Strip the so called Access Restricted Areas (ARA) remains a major constraint that limits access to around one third of fertile agricultural land and to the sea.

The funding crisis due to USA's suspension of its contribution to UNRWA has caused serious problems to the refugee population of more than 1.2 million of the most vulnerable people in the Gaza Strip. In the West Bank, UNRWA had to cancel its emergency support through food voucher and cash for work, affecting approximately 12,000 refugees households.

Recommendations for 2019

- Prioritizing funding for humanitarian agriculture and livelihoods activities through the HRP remains a top priority, as well as increasing longer terms and developmental programmes capacity to provide improved infrastructures, better access to natural resources, aiming at reducing unemployment. At the same time, existing safety net mechanisms cannot be dismantled without providing valid alternatives, especially to the severe food insecure and less resourceful individuals and households.
- The funding strategy should aim at putting in place a consistent response able to address the needs of vulnerable communities and households, in order to let them become less dependent on external assistance and eventually help build their resilience in the longer term.
- The implementation capacity in the State of Palestine is largely underutilised, with the risk of decreasing the ability of the civil society, especially local NGOs, to be present on the ground. Given the context of this crisis, the continuous and capillary presence of NGOs staff throughout all governorates has a paramount

importance in order to support the Palestinian people in their struggle against the occupation regime.

- Strong support is to be given to improve the livelihood of the most vulnerable ones among farmers, breeders and fishers who are challenged by facing tremendous reduction of livelihoods opportunities. The frequent closures of crossing borders lead to increase the price of agricultural inputs and sharply decrease the price of agricultural produces paid to farmers, as exports are not happening or are irregular. The limitations of fishing areas narrow down the fish catchments to the minimal, leaving the already exhausted fisheries under extreme socio-economic conditions of life. Special attention to be given to the ARA farmers who already have very limited access to their lands, due to Israeli military enforcement, and have been affected by the intense activities on the border since March 2018. In addition, at least twice a year, the Israeli authorities spray herbicides on crops, destroying them and causing poisoning resulting in land infertility. The funds for supporting those vulnerable farmers in the ARA and Area C and east Jerusalem are crucially needed to assist the most vulnerable communities.
- The provision of short-term employment through Cash based programs is very important for different groups of the community. Especially in Gaza Strip, the huge numbers of unemployed graduates (~50%) with increasing levels of poverty, requires special attention as to cover the daily basic needs and promote sustainable employment, especially with the continuity of salary crisis for PA civil servants for more than a year, and for more than four years for the Gaza employees.
- The FSS continued supporting line ministries in developing the information tool for better monitoring related activities and to identify gaps in order to better planning. The creation of a new integrated project repository and monitoring system is expected to provide a useful platform to the ministries for more successful planning and monitoring.
- Strengthening advocacy efforts to lift the blockade for more free movement for people and goods is strongly needed. The right to import the needed goods, as well as the right to export agricultural products is vital to allow producers to access external markets. This will assist producers in improving their disrupted livelihoods and therefore increasing the food security status of a large part of the population.

Shelter and NFIs

Analysis of achievements

The achievement in activities related to SO3 was minimal with not more than 3%. The achievement for the HHs suffer from hot and cold weather conditions by providing winterization or summarization assistance did not exceed 2% and the same applies for the component related to Shelter/NFIs stockpiling and improving the community capacity for self-recovery. For DES, only three schools (3%) prepared to serve as a collective center out of seventy schools targeted in the plan.

Analysis of challenges

Response measures that seek to reduce the risk of displacement in Area C and East Jerusalem:

Humanitarian partners have successfully been able to respond to demolitions in a timely and effective manner despite the increasingly difficult operational environment thereby decreasing the risk of displacement. However, the martial assistance sometimes not possible, the second option is to support the people with cash. Partners' surveys showed that the likelihood of displacement for the people receiving cash assistance is higher comparing to martial assistance. The other challenge was the lack of sustainable resources to have adequate emergency Shelter/NFIs stocks to respond on timely and effective way for the displaced people needs.

Timely and appropriate response to small-scale disasters, particularly against the impact of harsh weather:

Progress towards providing timely and appropriate responses to small-scale disasters, particularly the impact of harsh weather was minimal and has not been on target in the WB and Gaza. This low progress sustain particular concern on the health and wellbeing of the targeted communities where the shelters provide inadequate protection and increase burden of care and yearly maintenance costs, particularly FHH.

Designated emergency shelter upgrades:

The plan was made to upgrade 70 schools and equip them with necessary upgrades to serve as emergency shelters this is in addition to another 62 (50 UNRWA and 12 PA) DES's which were upgraded since 2016. Only 3 DES's were funded in 2018, but there is still a need to complete the upgrades at the other shelters.

Recommendations for 2019

- Strengthen the resilience and preparedness of vulnerable communities to cope better during emergencies. However, more direct and considerable funding to Shelter/Non-Food Item (NFI) projects in the plan is needed, especially for projects providing preparedness activities to ensure a timely response.
- Ensure the availability of emergency shelter items and to support relevant partners to have more sustainable resources to replenish their stocks.
- More funding is needed to upgrade additional designated emergency shelters in Gaza.
- Supporting the upgrading of substandard shelters is needed to reduce the repeated need for temporary solutions and unaffordable yearly maintenance costs.
- Additional preparedness and stockpiling is needed to strengthen the capacity of host community to respond to IDPs at time of emergency.

Education

Analysis of achievements

The key interventions under this SO, were focused on PSS, catch up/remedial education and emergency preparedness. The Cluster managed to achieve only 33% of the set target. PSS was provided to 3,412 students (1,482) in WB and GS, while 57,604 students (27,738 girls) were provided with remedial education Furthermore, it has been agreed with the Ministry of Education and Higher Education (MoEHE) to continue strengthening the implementation of psychosocial programmes. MoEHE was able to develop a contingency plan with the technical support of the cluster partners, and the operationalization of this plan started in 2018 through establishing crisis cells, training Ministry staff and establishing of emergency operating rooms.

Analysis of challenges

Due to a shortfall in funding, the Education cluster partners were unable to provide school-based psychosocial support and remedial education to the fullest extent for children in Area C and East Jerusalem who face regular attacks and harassment going to, from and during school and for those dealing with psychological distress, particularly those going to UNRWA schools in the Gaza Strip, Old City of Jerusalem, H2, and Bethlehem. These activities are critical to enable

children who are exposed to prolonged conflict-related violence to deal and cope with the everyday shocks and stress.

Increased violations against education in 2018, including the demolition of 5 schools in area C, while resources in West Bank are scarce to ensure adequate response to these violations.

Recommendations for 2019

- Funding should be prioritized for the PSS in schools targeting students and education staff to ensure they deal effectively with the stress and shocks they face when commuting to and from schools, especially those who have to cross checkpoints every day and are subject to settler violence.
- Strengthen the emergency preparedness in schools in different vulnerable area of WB and GS, through and in line with the MoEHE contingency plan.
- Ensure the Education Cluster priorities in WB and GS are addressed through the HF and CERF allocations for 2019.

Health

Analysis of achievements

Although no funded HRP projects that aim to strengthen the preparedness and contingency plans, the Health Cluster managed to develop a white paper in coordination with OCHA that aimed at mobilizing resources to respond to the newly existing crisis as a

result of the mass demonstrations, and succeeded to mobilize \$ 28.5 million out of \$ 41.5 million needed.

Some organizations from the Health Cluster had used their core fund and their prepositioned items that has helped to cover estimated 620,000 beneficiaries, and they have released their prepositioned and procured items in the first 3 months of the mass demonstration crisis, which improved the response, resilience and coping mechanism of the health sector.

Analysis of challenges

The health HRP projects received limited fund towards the last quarter of 2018, which didn't help in achieving results and reaching targets, particularly those related to preparedness.

The use of organizations core fund to respond to crisis, has a limited response effect and direct their fund to emergency response, on the expense of their other services and programs, which either will stop or suspended for long time, affecting negatively the beneficiaries of these programs.

Recommendations for 2019

- To ensure funding to preparedness projects at the beginning of the year, to improve coping mechanisms and support contingency plans implementation at time of crisis event.

ACHIEVEMENTS AND CHALLENGES BY CLUSTER



PROTECTION

KEY ACHIEVEMENTS

- Coordination between Mine Action Working Group partners was enhanced in 2018, with emphasis on standardizing the Explosive Remnant of War risk education messages and cooperation of risk education material between partners.
- GBV Sub-Cluster partners have managed to provide multi-sectorial services to around 12,620 GBV survivors.
- 292 communities in the West Bank benefited from regular protective presence by protective presence actors, including the communities at high risk of forcible transfer.
- In Gaza Strip, two safe spaces were established for GBV survivors, in addition to eight protection networks (including women and human rights activists, journalist, survivors and mukhtars) to combat GBV within communities.
- In response to the upsurge of violence and needs and impact of the “Great March of Return”, child protection and mental health and psychosocial (MHPSS) partners improved coordination through the Child Protection coordination group. This has strengthened inter-sectoral referral pathways between civil society organizations and line ministries. Awareness of and access to MHPSS improved with ten thousand for caregivers distributed to all six main hospitals in Gaza. Child Protection partners in the Gaza Strip reached a total of 61,329 children with the provision of Child Protection services including MHPSS, life skills education, counselling services, and individual case management services. In addition, 81,382 caregivers (24% males) were provided with structured psychosocial support services.
- Legal aid actors provided 124 instances of technical



1.9 million
people in need

1.9 million
people targeted

1.2 million
people reached

63%
of targeted
people reached



Funding Received

\$18 (44%)

Funding Requirements

\$41M

West Bank **\$11 million**
Gaza **\$7 million**

assistance to the Palestinian Authority for its public interest cases in East Jerusalem via the Ministry of Jerusalem Affairs; in Area C through the Anti-wall and Settlement Commission; and in Hebron H2 via the Hebron Rehabilitation Committee, to strengthen their litigation efforts and ensure optimal protection for their beneficiaries from forcible displacement.

- As a result of efforts of the legal aid community, Israel will grant visas for the minor children of Palestinian residents of East Jerusalem whose request for status reinstatement is being examined.

CHALLENGES

- Mine Action working group faced challenges of a serious funding shortfall, which has contributed to a significant decrease in operations and activities related to ERW risk education and overall, in addition to security concerns in high risk areas which restrict the targeting of certain vulnerable beneficiaries.
- Humanitarian operational space has been shrinking for the effective delivery of assistance and protection

to Palestinians in Gaza and the West Bank. Some of the obstacles include physical and administrative restrictions to the access and movement of personnel, especially national employees, restrictions on the delivery of materials needed for humanitarian projects, and limitations on the implementation of projects that involve building, expanding or rehabilitating infrastructure in the Gaza Strip and Area C of the West Bank.

- In 2018, funding rates for humanitarian activities were relatively low, at the end of December 2018 the HRP protection projects was only 42 percent funded. In particular, for CP/MHPSS projects, chronic humanitarian underfunding has also continued to be the main challenge.
- In Gaza, the pressure on CPMHSS and GBV interventions has been exacerbated by the impact of the so-called “Great March of Return,” which has overburdened the health care system in Gaza. The escalation resulted in high numbers of injured persons, including 258 Palestinian fatalities and over 25,000 injuries, including over 4,300 children and over 2,000 women injured. More than 110 incidents of interference with education were documented as well. GMR increased the burden on partners to meet the needs of affected children and their families for the provision of MHPSS and child protection services.
- In terms of GBV interventions, the overloaded healthcare system in Gaza due to the great march of return related casualties has led to a reduction in the referral of cases from health providers. In addition, increasing operating costs as a result of the chronic energy crisis, is forcing GBV providers to reduce

opening hours and thus availability of services, in the context of continued funding shortfalls. Moreover, the lack for cash to support GBV survivors in terms of transportation to ensure access to multi-sectoral services, to provide rental subsidy, etc., and Lack of possibilities to work on long-term economic empowerment were challenges faced by GBV cash based projects.

- Women and girls with disabilities, who are in need for multi-sectorial GBV services faced challenges in accessing the GBV services due to social and other factors, as well as the lack of trained staff to deal with Women with disabilities.
- Several major risks began materializing in 2018 which could jeopardize the ongoing protection response. 2018 showed an accelerating trajectory towards de jure annexation of Area C; despite a decrease in demolitions compared to 2016, legislative and jurisprudential processes toward formal annexation of parts of the West Bank are accelerating both through the direct application of Israeli legislation over the West Bank (e.g. Higher Education Bill, Military order Concerning the Civil Services Administration in Hebron H2 and approval of settlements plans) and specific Bills (Annexation Bills and Order concerning the Removal of New Structures No 1797-2018); Judicial reforms aiming to impede legal recourses for Palestinians in Israeli Courts; In addition, there is a direct attack over humanitarian actors working in the West Bank by issuing military orders to hinder Humanitarian actors from documenting military violations such as military order that Bar Activists from Documenting Soldiers in West Bank.

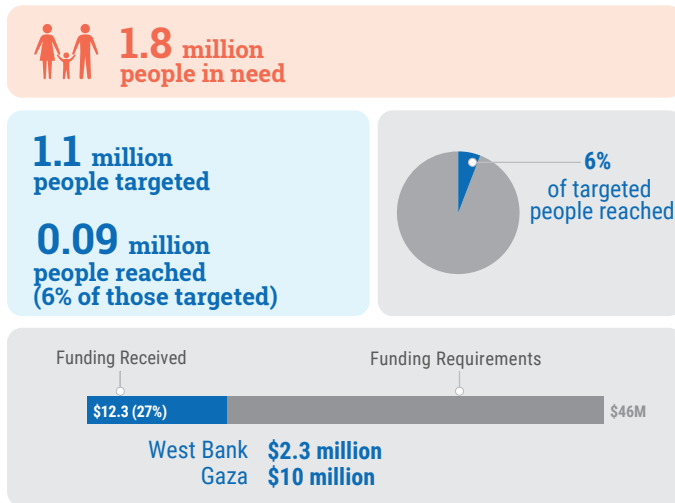


KEY ACHIEVEMENTS

- 1.9 million Persons in Gaza benefited indirectly of emergency fuel supply to operate 140 water and wastewater facilities. Approximately 3,144,106 liters of emergency fuel distributed till end of Dec 2018.
- Hygiene awareness sessions and public environmental health campaigns were held and addressed to 43,868 people, 296,203 of people with increased access to safe drinking/domestic water services and 40,475 of people with increased access to sanitation services.
- WASH Cluster forms two technical working groups related to WASH in Health and Solar energy in WASH action to address WASH information gaps in HRP 2018. WASH guidelines in designated emergency shelters (DES) and urban displacement was finalized.
- About 2.4 million USD\$ were consider to Provision of 25 solar energy sources to critical WASH facilities and to mitigate the impact of the electricity crisis on the access to water located in vulnerable and underserved communities in Gaza Strip.

CHALLENGES

- The energy crises daily have significantly impacted on the availability of clean water supply. Water distributed through the water network, reaches most homes for approximately a few hours every 3 to 5 days; and desalination plants are functioning partially at less than 10-20 per cent of their maximum capacity. The shortening or suspension of sewage treatment cycles has led to increased levels of contamination of groundwater sources and to the Mediterranean Sea, leaving over 95% of water sources too contaminated for human consumption and more than 74% of the sea around Gaza contaminated with partially treated sewage. The trend of fuel consumption has rapidly increased as the population in the Gaza Strip increases and the availability of electricity through the public grid decreases and is unable to cope with the high demands.



- The cluster funding gap in the West Bank and in the Gaza Strip hindered the possibility of reaching the set targets for 2018 and to cover Cluster response priorities, despite the deteriorating WASH situation in Gaza and the West Bank. In addition to the limited operational and maintenance capacity of service providers in Gaza. Noting that the needs of targeted families in the Gaza Strip are not limited to hygiene sector but are the cause of high vulnerability in more than one sector: access to and storage of water supply, shelters conditions, educational level, lack of reliable sources of income into the families
- Restrictions placed on the entry of construction materials into Gaza continue to affect WASH projects in Gaza; the WASH items listed as dual-use affect both humanitarian interventions and the reconstruction WASH projects in Gaza. Development restrictions and demolition incidents in Area C also continue to adversely affect provision of WASH services to communities in Area C.
- Political situation in the Gaza Strip, characterized by the escalation of violence by the occupation army in the days of the Great Return March, has not facilitated operations and slowed the implementation of WASH response.



HEALTH AND NUTRITION

KEY ACHIEVEMENTS

- More than 29,000 emergency and trauma patients had access to lifesaving treatment by the Health Cluster through the provision of drugs, medical supplies, emergency medical teams and rehabilitation services made available to them.
- Access to basic health services remains a critical challenge for Palestinians living in Area C, H2 and seam zone, particularly for communities located close to settlements, the separation wall, closed military areas, or areas closed by gates. In 2018, the mobile health clinics provided access to over 45,000 people living in Area C, H2 and seam zone.
- In Gaza, 8,385 neonate patients and more than 8,700 non-communicable disease patients, without access to life-saving medication and treatment were provided with essential healthcare services, through the provision of drugs, disposables and equipment for appropriate diagnosis and treatment.
- The Health Cluster continues to monitor the Health Situation in light of the weekly mass demonstrations and the attacks against healthcare and produce biweekly Situation report and a monthly one on the access to healthcare for patients in need of medical referrals outside Gaza.

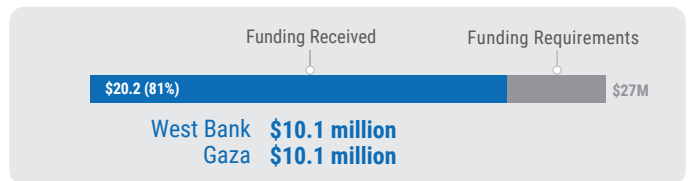
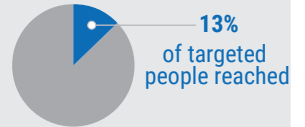
CHALLENGES

- The limited funding for the health cluster projects in the oPt (35%) only, has hindered the possibility of reaching the set targets for 2018 despite deteriorating health situation in Gaza. Moreover, most of funded projects had received the fund towards the end of 2018, so reached population remained low by the end of the year.

 **1.6 million**
people in need

1.26 million
people targeted

1.26 million
people reached
(13% of those targeted)



- The continued weekly mass demonstrations, resulted in very high number of trauma casualties, which required urgent humanitarian response, and not only used most of the existing resources, but also directed the fund priority to respond to trauma and emergency care on the expense of other health services.
- In 2018, the Health Sector continued to face a severe decline in the availability of essential drugs and disposables.
- Permits for health clinics in Area C, H2 and Hebron: Without a permit from the Israeli Authorities many mobile clinics teams could not access targeted villages and communities, such as Arab Ramadin in Qalqilia, which is located behind the crossing check point between Qalqilia City and Bartaa (located in Bartaa enclave in Jenin). A similar issue was faced with the UNRWA mobile teams. There is a growing concern that access for mobile health clinics to Area C, H2 and seamzone is becoming increasingly restricted.
- The limited main electricity supply from the grid and fuel gaps for back-up generators are continuing to pose a challenge for the health sector to deliver basic services.

FOOD SECURITY

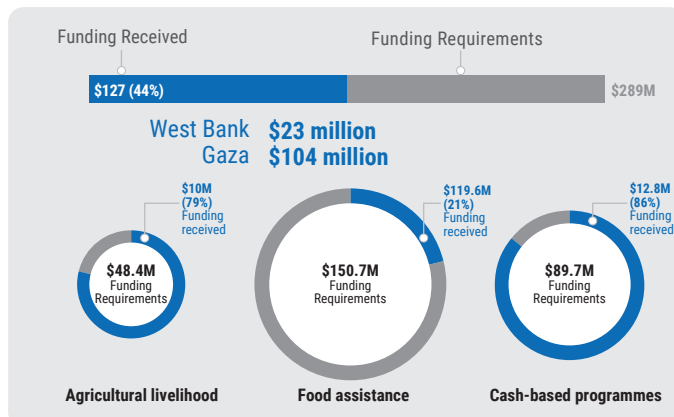
KEY ACHIEVEMENTS

- Only 20,000 people benefited from agricultural related interventions; only 8 per cent of the targeted beneficiaries have been supported.
- Approximately 25 per cent of the targeted beneficiaries of cash for work programmes were reached in 2018. This is equivalent to only 93,000 individuals, against more than 380,000 targeted.
- By the end of quarter 4, more than 134m people were reached through different types of support. This is equivalent to 92% of the overall people in need, although this is mainly due to the achievements under the food assistance component.
- Only 7.7% of the targeted beneficiaries in the
- Some 1.3m people received food assistance through vouchers or in-kind distribution. 70% of these beneficiaries are refugees. Around 353,616 non-refugees people received food assistance through WFP in 2018. It is worth noting that WFP continue providing food assistance through all the year for 330,000 beneficiaries in both Gaza Strip and West Bank at times when the only source of social protection from PA financial transfer were delayed or cancelled.
- CBT intervention contribute to empower and make the participating shops more resilient through increase in the sales and employment and especially in Gaza

1.6 million people in need

1.45 million people targeted

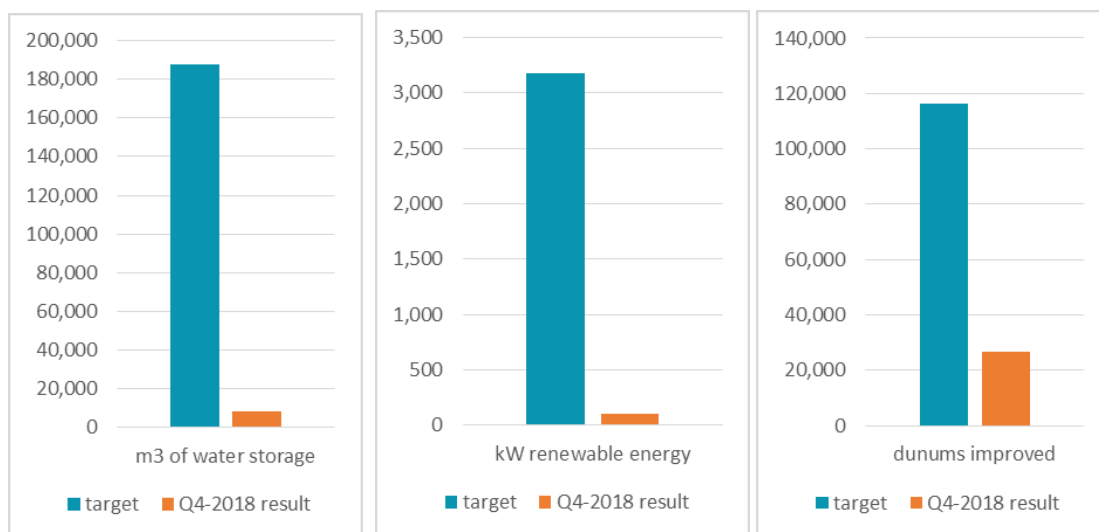
1.34 million people reached (92% of those targeted)*



* Food assistance targets the same beneficiaries multiple times throughout the year. Therefore, 100 per cent of beneficiaries reached does not imply that the 2018 goal has been accomplished.

Strip. In addition, the secondary impact of cash-based transfers enabled the private sector to invest \$350k in the food sector and to increase employment opportunities by 17% with participating enterprises.

- Only four out of fourteen agricultural-livelihood output indicators have reported some achievements. The few ones showing one progress shows success ratios ranging from 3% to 23%. The following three graphs provide a snapshot of the achievements for this component:



CHALLENGES

- The agricultural livelihood sector remain largely underfunded, showing an overall funding gap of 79 per cent.
- High level of unemployment, especially in Gaza Strip (52% in 2018), continues to increase poverty and food insecurity, which is only partially addressed by cash for work, livelihood support and other safety net mechanisms, due to lack of funding.
- The severe and continuous energy crisis has been affecting the production cost for vulnerable farmers, especially with regard to water for irrigation and electricity for poultry farms in the Gaza Strip, requiring extraordinary measures to be put in place in order to support vulnerable farmers. These measures can include supporting farmers with solar power systems to reduce running costs. The overall lack of

available resources has limited the response capacity under this component, leaving the whole agriculture sector at imminent risk of serious paralysis, further eroding the resilience of vulnerable households. Only 3% of the initial target of photovoltaic systems have been delivered, due to limited funding.

- WFP suspended food assistance in West Bank due to financial constraints, affecting around 25000 people non-refugees food insecure people living below deep poverty line. WFP track their status after suspension of assistance and found that the food consumption status worsened, and consumption-based coping strategies were more relied on, after the suspension of WFP food assistance. The percentage of households with a poor Food Consumption Score increased from 7 percent to 36 percent after ending CBT-voucher assistance.

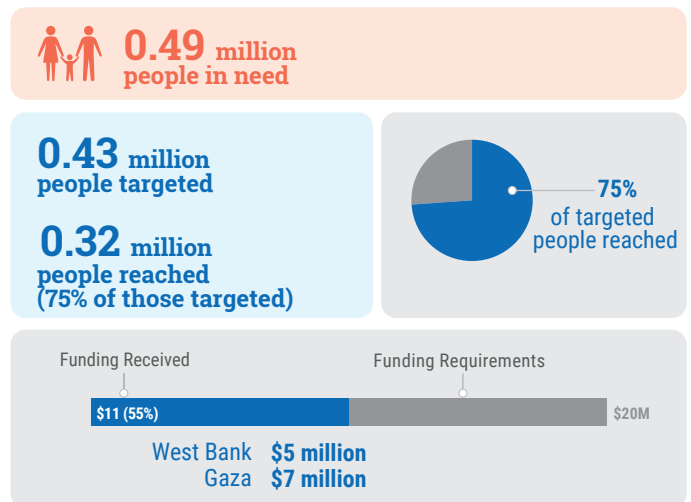
EDUCATION

KEY ACHIEVEMENTS

- The Cluster partners continued to strengthen legal response mechanisms for attacks against education including supporting legal action within Israeli courts and strengthening the capacities and raised awareness of 1,626 (1,070F) community members and students on legal rights and sources of legal aid in response to violations against education.
- The Cluster continued to ensure safe access to school of the most vulnerable children in the West Bank through provision of protective presence to 5,943 students (50% girls) and 178 teachers daily. Also 330 teachers and parents (215 female) were trained on school based emergency preparedness and response.
- 309,035 students (150,826 girls) in WB and GS benefitted from emergency education supplies provided by the education cluster partners. Efforts to ensure students wellbeing and improved learning resulted in provision of PSS to 3,728 students (1,664 girls) in WB and GS, and remedial education to 57,604 students (27,738 girls)
- 9,110 student and teacher benefited from school rehabilitation (44% females), 21 children with disability (11 girls) benefited from assistive devices

CHALLENGES

- The funding gap for the education cluster overall in WB and GS hindered the possibility of reaching the set targets for 2018 despite deteriorating security and economic situation in Gaza and WB.
- Restrictions on access/movement of procured emergency education materials hindered the efficient and timely humanitarian response in Gaza.
- Pressure and threats faced by Protective Presence partners mainly in H2 area of Hebron, might negatively affect their capacity to continue to deliver this service. This will result in increased protection risks for children commuting to school.



- Increased violations against education in 2018, including the demolition of 5 schools in area C, while resources in West Bank are scarce to ensure adequate response to these violations.
- Electricity crisis in Gaza severely impacted students learning. With little more than 6 hours of electricity a day, students' study time is restricted. Additionally, studying in dark and hot classrooms negatively affects their ability to concentrate and learn. In the schools, there is a lack of generators, computer labs are closed and students miss practical classes in science and technology.

SHELTER & NON-FOOD ITEMS

KEY ACHIEVEMENTS

- All the displaced families (100% eligible cases) received timely post-demolition shelter assistance in kind or cash.
- 10,360 IDPs received irregular temporary shelter cash assistance.
- 500 HHs received assistance to repair or upgrade damaged shelters.
- 1,497 HHs received assistance to improve or upgrade the substandard shelters including WASH facilities.
- 3 schools fully prepared to serve as Designated Emergency Shelter (DES)

CHALLENGES

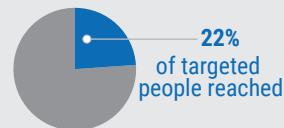
Lack of funding was the biggest challenge to achieve the overall shelter objectives. The funding level is only 15% from the requested amount.

In Area C the changes in applying different military orders, impose further risks and limitations to implement shelter interventions. Hence, few donors showed interest to invest in shelter activities.

 **0.26 million** people in need

0.17 million people targeted

0.04 million people reached (22% of those targeted)



Limited or restricted access to H2 area hindered the partners' work and required additional resources for coordination and implementation.

In Gaza, the closure of Kerem Shalom Crossing during from time to time caused an increase in the prices of construction materials at the local market. Partners managed to overcome this challenge however had to delay some cash instalments to beneficiary or postponed signing new agreements until the prices were stable and back to the normal conditions.

For the progress of HRP monitoring indicators, please see: <https://plan.hpc.tools/#/plan/633>

Endnotes

- 1 Injury figures for Palestinians are from the Ministry of Health in Gaza. In the same period there were two Israeli military fatality and 52 injuries. According to the Israeli authorities, the “Great March of Return” has been “planned and led by Hamas” and the launching of incendiary kites and balloons from Gaza towards Israel has resulted in more than 2,600 hectares of agricultural fields and forests damaged by fire. <http://mfa.gov.il/MFA/ForeignPolicy/Terrorism/Palestinian/Pages/Wave-of-terror-October-2015.aspx>
- 2 The average monthly number of referrals for Gaza patients in 2018 was significantly higher than the monthly average for 2017, with 2,579 referrals per month in 2018 compared to 1,709 per month in 2017. http://www.emro.who.int/images/stories/palestine/documents/WHO_Monthly_report_December_2018.pdf?ua=1
- 3 Regarding the “Great March of Return”, Israel’s Supreme Court rejected a petition filed by human rights NGOs, which challenged the legality under international law of the open fire regulations used during the demonstrations.
- 4 According to a study by the RAND Corporation, illness caused by water pollution is responsible for more than a quarter of illnesses in Gaza and is a leading cause of child mortality. As 97 per cent of drinking water does not meet international standards, a third of residents’ monthly wages goes toward the purchase of bottled water, compared to 0.7 percent of monthly wages in the West in general. ‘Polluted Water Leading Cause of Child Mortality in Gaza, Study Finds’, Ha’aretz, 16 October 2018.
- 5 World Bank, Economic Monitoring Report to the Ad Hoc Liaison Committee, 27 September 2018, para. 1.
- 6 UNCTAD: Report on UNCTAD assistance to the Palestinian people: Developments in the economy of the Occupied Palestinian Territory July 2018, para. 31.
- 7 World Bank, Economic Monitoring Report to the Ad Hoc Liaison Committee, 27 September 2018, para. 1.
- 8 OCHA Protection of Civilians database. In 2018, 181 incidents resulting in Israeli casualties or damage carried out by Palestinians in, or from, the West Bank were recorded.
- 9 The community is among dozens of Palestinian Bedouin communities, the majority of whom are refugee, at risk of forcible transfer in the central West Bank. For nine years, the residents have fought a legal struggle at the Israeli High Court of Justice (HCJ) to prevent the destruction of their community. On 23 September, following a HCJ ruling, the Israeli authorities warned residents that they had to self-demolish their homes and other structures by 1 October, otherwise the authorities would do so: on 21 October Israel temporarily froze the demolition.