



UNICEF SoP - Eyad ElBaba

# State of Palestine

## Humanitarian Situation Report

July – September 2017

### Highlights

The humanitarian needs of children in the Occupied Palestinian Territory (oPt) remained high during the reporting period.

- Power cuts and shortages of fuel in Gaza have affected the provision of essential health care services. Discontinued supply of electricity in vaccines cold chain jeopardize the effectiveness of the vaccine and threaten immunization for around 287,063 children under age of five. In response, UNICEF was able to procure 11 solar refrigerators for UNRWA primary health care clinics where 70% of vaccines for Gaza are stored for the immunization programme. Access to clean water and sanitation are even more challenging, posing acute risks to children.
- During the reporting period, the arrest and/or detention of 200 children in East Jerusalem was documented, compared to 182 cases in the second quarter of 2017. UNICEF supported the provision of legal assistance to 171 of these children. In addition, 138 of these children (90 girls and 48 boys) participated in psychosocial support sessions to help overcome stress of being arrested.
- The main challenge in 2017 has been the lack of funding, especially in the areas of Child Protection with a funding gap of 72%, Education with a funding gap of 54% and WASH with a funding gap of 56%. The funding gap for cluster coordination is 64%. Such funding constraints hamper UNICEF's ability to meet the needs of up to 221,396 targeted children with essential emergency services. Advocacy efforts, by the CO, are ongoing.

### UNICEF's Response with Partners

	UNICEF		Sector/Cluster	
	UNICEF Target	Total Results*	Cluster Target	Total Results*
WASH: # of people in humanitarian situation benefitted from improved access to water	85,644	14,831	209,000	58,835
Child Protection: # of children that benefitted from child protection interventions	53,696	10,030	176,000	73,767
Education: # of children & teachers that benefitted from protective presence	4,700	8,537	4,700	8,537
Health: # of children and women benefitted from emergency health care services / supplies	95,000	78,239	535,443	78,239

**800,000**

# of children affected out of (UN OCHA Humanitarian HRP 2017)

**2,000,000**

# of people affected (UN OCHA Humanitarian HRP 2017)

**221,396**

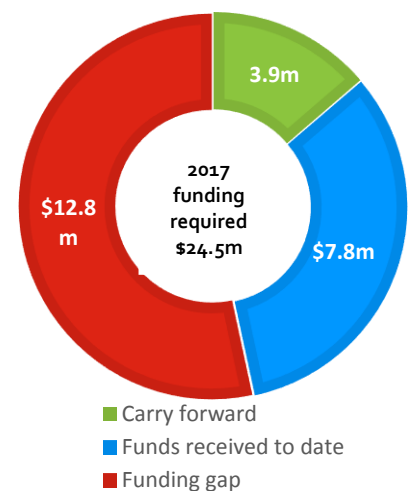
# of children targeted out of

**327,483**

# of people targeted (UNICEF Humanitarian Action for Children 2017)

**UNICEF Appeal 2017\***  
**US\$ 24.5 million**

### Funding Status 2017



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

## Situation Overview & Humanitarian Needs

The humanitarian situation in Gaza which was already characterised by deprivations and vulnerabilities of the population of 1.8 million, driven by the continued closure and three major hostilities in the past six years, has further deteriorated during the reporting period. The severe electricity shortage in Gaza since April 2017 has severely affected the population as households are receiving water between 0-4 maximum hours per day. Many surgeries are postponed and intensive care units are functioning with minimal power, which is compounded by the protracted shortage of essential drugs and medical equipment. In East Jerusalem, Palestinians are subject to a coercive environment, including home demolitions, forced evictions and detentions. Children in the West Bank see their access to services and opportunities limited by territorial fragmentation, the separation wall, restrictions of movement and goods, access to natural resources, and eroding livelihoods. Palestinian populations in Area C are particularly affected.

The total number of People in Need (PiN) for WASH in 2017 is 1.45 million, of which 90% are from Gaza and the remaining 10% are from the West Bank and East Jerusalem. 85% of the total PiN are suffering from poor water quality. Approximately 265,000<sup>1</sup> children are in need of structured psychosocial support and child protection interventions.<sup>2</sup> Child arrests and detention frequently occur in East Jerusalem. Harassment by Israeli Security Forces at check-points, violence from settlers and the demolition of houses and other infrastructure are an ongoing feature of daily life affecting children and families across the West Bank. Due to these factors, 504,000 school children require humanitarian assistance to access quality education in a safe, child friendly environment. Many children travel long distances to reach school exposing them to violence hence necessitating the need for protective presence.

Estimated Population in Need of Humanitarian Assistance (Estimates calculated based on initial figures from Humanitarian Response Plan 2017)			
Start of humanitarian response: Jan, 2017			
	Total	Male	Female
Total Population in Need	2,000,000	1,016,000	982,000 <sup>3</sup>
Children (Under 18)	800,00	408,000	392,000
Children Under Five in need of WASH services	214,866	109,582	105,285
Pregnant and lactating women	156,504	NA	156,504

## Humanitarian Leadership and Coordination

UNICEF, as part of the UN Country Team and Humanitarian Country Team, coordinates its support in humanitarian response, early recovery and reconstruction with the Palestinian Authority. UNICEF leads the WASH cluster in close cooperation with the Palestinian Water Authority with the perspective of transitioning cluster coordination functions to national authorities. UNICEF co-leads the Education Cluster with Save the Children. UNICEF also leads the Child Protection Working Group and affiliated groups on Mental Health and Psychosocial Services (MHPSS) within the Protection cluster. UNICEF co-leads the Nutrition Working Group under the Health cluster in Gaza and at the national level, in close cooperation with the Ministry of Health and WHO.

## Humanitarian Strategy

In Palestine, UNICEF ensures complementarity with national efforts reaching the most vulnerable communities. UNICEF provides technical expertise and support in strengthening child protection systems and services, including case management and referrals. It monitors and reports on child rights violations, thus informing 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 and improved access to safe drinking water in affected communities in Gaza and the West Bank. In addition, UNICEF promotes early childhood development, with a focus on children with developmental delays and disabilities, and supports the provision of essential and life-saving paediatric medicines and medical consumables, including micronutrient supplementation and infant and young child feeding.

UNICEF promotes 'resilient development', by bridging the divide between development and humanitarian assistance, integrating risk factors into programming, and strengthening systems that can anticipate and absorb shocks in the event of conflict, violence or disasters. This requires addressing the underlying drivers of inequity and fragility that cause grave violations, social deprivation and stresses. This also entails working in close collaboration with public institutions and other stakeholders.

<sup>1</sup> UN OCHA Humanitarian Needs Overview, 2017, State of Palestine

<sup>2</sup> Humanitarian Response Plan 2017 Occupied Palestinian Territory

<sup>3</sup> Disaggregated based on 2016 PCBS population figures (50.8% male and 49.1%female)

## Summary Analysis of Programme Response

### Water, Sanitation and Hygiene

In Gaza, progress was made in September in two main WASH activities. The number of people with improved access to WASH services increased by 600 people with the rehabilitation of sanitation facilities for households (HH), structures, and basic WASH conditions. Furthermore, in partnership with GVC, 2400 people were reached through hygiene awareness raising sessions and environmental health campaigns. In partnership with the CMWU, UNICEF supported the water disinfection program through the chlorine distribution for 70 water wells in Khan Younis and Rafah, in addition to supplying required chemicals for the water desalination units owned by CMWU.



*Ahmad and Mahmoud Telbani, 10 years old twins from Al Mussadar Area in Gaza, sit next to the new water tank donated by USAID to their family through UNICEF.*

In response to the electricity crisis in Gaza, UNICEF is repairing damaged WASH facilities and their associated generators which have been over-used. The installation of solar panels for two completed designated emergency shelters in two school compounds is ongoing, and construction has started for one additional designated shelter in another school compound. In the West Bank, WASH activities provided 224 people with access to drinking water at a subsidized price.

WASH activities are encountering several challenges, especially delays in the entry of material for repair work and rehabilitation of water networks. Others include the shrinking of resources, capacity building needs for WASH stakeholders, and the destruction and uprooting of water networks that were installed in Area C.

The WASH Cluster developed an analysis of the consequences of the Gaza electricity crisis on the WASH sector. The analysis looks at issues pertaining to current fuel consumption, and electricity status, and their impact on access to water and wastewater treatment and provides disaggregated data on the people in need. The WASH cluster's response has contributed to the prevention and mitigation of a large scale public health crisis, preventing a knock-on effect on the Health sector, already at critical levels.

### Child Protection



*Child-parent inter-action activity, Family Centre in Beit Hanoun, North Gaza*

During this quarter, in Gaza, 1,536 children (650 girls and 886 boys) received individual case management support, and a total cumulative of 4,610 caregivers benefitted from awareness raising sessions on the protection of their children. In addition, 8,220 children and caregivers (4,999 females and 3,221 males) benefitted from Explosive Remnants of War (ERW) risk education sessions through family centers. As a result of the work of the working group partners, a total of 62,637 children and caregivers received ERW messages.

During the reporting period, UNICEF and its partners, Ma'an and Tamer reached 8,356 children (4,239 girls and 4,117 boys) with structured child protection interventions through 20 Family Centres in Gaza. These focused on individual counselling, group counselling, life skills, child/parent interaction program and other psychosocial support group activities. In Gaza, from January to 30

September, the UNICEF-led CP and MHPSS Working Groups reached 55,489 children (30,140 boys and 25,349 girls) with child protection, mental health and psychosocial services, including case management, counselling and life skills.

In the West Bank, 18,278 children (10,308 boys; 7,970 girls) were provided with child protection services including MHPSS, life skills education and counselling services.<sup>4</sup> Lack of funding and short-term funding cycles has limited the ability to programme strategically and effect long standing change.

<sup>4</sup> 3<sup>rd</sup> quarter data are not yet public.

## Education and Adolescents

Three years after the 2014 conflict, needs for remedial education remain high in Gaza due to the excessive stress and anxiety experienced by students. During the reporting period, in Gaza, a total of 152 teachers and principals (39% females) gained new skills through trainings aimed at supporting grade 4 and 6 students that are experiencing difficulties in learning and in basic numeracy and literacy skills. The programme focuses on the core subjects of Arabic and Mathematics to enable students to gain foundational skills.

UNICEF in partnership with international NGOs Ecumenical Accompaniment Programme in Palestine (EAPPI) and Christian Peacemaker Teams (CPT) continues to facilitate access to education in the West Bank (Area C) by providing accompaniment and protection to 8,123 children and 414 teachers on their commute to and from schools, a critical activity for our target beneficiaries.

Children and teachers face obstacles in accessing schools, especially in Hebron. Additionally, military ordinances have prevented protective presence of partners in several occasions. Progress towards the cluster objectives has been limited due to a lack of funds for the humanitarian education response. Only 26.5% of the total education sector HRP ask has been received.

In September, UNICEF brought together 27 Gazan and Japanese adolescents to discuss their perceptions, concerns and responsibilities on prevailing problems related to the environment, education, electricity, crises and poverty. Movement and access restrictions affecting Gaza compelled the event to be conducted through a virtual meeting.



*New movement barrier affecting school children in Hebron.  
Photo Credit: Christian Peacemaker Teams (CPT).*

## Child Health & Nutrition



*New mobile clinic handed over to the Ministry of Health to service vulnerable families in Area C.*

UNICEF, with the Government of Japan, officially handed over to the Ministry of Health two mobile clinics that are serving the most vulnerable Bedouin and herding communities of Dura and Yatta. Each clinic consists of a team of health professionals and provides health services to 5,000 extremely vulnerable families. To date 96 children 190 adults benefited from the essential package of services.

A total of 6,136 high risk mothers and new-borns benefitted from targeted home visiting services within 24-hours after delivery by UNICEF's partner, Near East Council of Churches during this quarter. Hence, a cumulative of 14,333 vulnerable children and their mothers benefitted from home based and community counselling. In this quarter, at the National level a total of 47,939 children and pregnant women in vulnerable communities benefitted from emergency paediatric, neonate and maternal medical supplies. UNICEF supported the Ministry of Health in the West Bank providing 13.9 tons of essential drugs for neonates and mothers.

In Gaza, this quarter, 1,783 risky new-borns benefitted from the quality health care services in five neonatal intensive care units. Furthermore, UNICEF ensured the early detection of harmful new-born metabolic disorders and prevention of fatal diseases through procurement of phenylketonuria (PKU) test for 23,000 new-borns for NICUs in Gaza. To address urgent needs in accessing referral services for families and young children, UNICEF supported the establishment of "Telemedicine" between two hospitals from Gaza and West Bank. This innovation supported 600 families from Gaza denied referrals to health care services in West Bank to receive the health consultation through video link.

## Communications for Development (C4D)

In the third quarter of 2017, training on C4D was conducted for staff and partners in the West Bank, with the objective of building their capacity to develop and implement C4D strategies on early childhood development and eliminating violence against children. Training on C4D was also conducted for ADAP partner Palvision in the West Bank to build their capacity on behaviour and social change communication for eliminating violence against children. Furthermore, technical support was provided to Palvision to ensure adolescent led initiatives in the summer camps focus more on C4D key priorities of gender based violence and bullying.

## Media and External Communication

Communication packages focusing on the situation of children in the Gaza Strip (WASH, the electricity crisis, child poverty and adolescents) were published (statements, stories, photos, videos, social media sets #Gaza4children). The office organized a visit of Palestinian adolescents from Gaza to Jerusalem and Ramallah, which they visited for the first time, and where they attended an



exhibition of the school murals they had painted as part of a UNICEF project - the 2016 Arab Idol Winner, Yacoub Shaheen, and the Minister of Education and Higher Education were present. Planning and preparatory work was led to develop blogs, interviews, photo stories and videos focusing on adolescent and partners' voices in Gaza.

The office also supported a visit of the UN Secretary General, Antonio Guterres, to Ramallah, during which he met with adolescents who were trained by UNICEF in communication and entrepreneurship skills and who explained the issues they face, in particular, a lack of political participation and of job prospects. The Secretary General also visited a « One stop centre » providing support to children in conflict with the law.

## Supply and Logistics

As part of its continued investments in emergency preparedness, UNICEF continues to follow up with the Israeli authorities on pending donation approvals, which include supplies for the prepositioning of emergency Health and Nutrition medical drugs and equipment. The latter are for critical lifesaving Health and Nutrition interventions. Prepositioning of emergency supplies for Gaza was supported through the UNICEF Emergency Programme Fund (EPF) managed by EMOPS. Other essential Hospital equipment, which includes also infant incubators, baby-care kits, electronic scales were procured for our projects in Gaza.

## Funding

Appeal Sector	SoP - UNICEF HRP 2017 Funding Requirements				
	Requirements (USD)	Funds Available *		Funding Gap	
		Funds Received Current Year	Carry-Over	USD	%
WASH	12,913,574	3,566,764	2,175,505	7,171,305	56%
Child Protection	3,987,067	813,163	288,026	2,885,878	72%
Education	3,985,578	1,205,461	636,353	2,143,764	54%
Health and Nutrition	2,804,490	1,921,094	811,016	72,380	3%
Cluster Coordination	855,198	310,966		544,232	64%
<b>Sub-Total</b>	<b>24,545,907</b>	<b>7,817,448</b>	<b>3,910,900</b>	<b>12,817,559</b>	<b>52%</b>

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

## Next SitRep: 15/01/2018

**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](http://www.unicef.org/appeals/state_of_palestine.html)

Who to contact for further information

**Genevieve Boutin**  
Special Representative,  
UNICEF State of Palestine  
Tel: +972 (0)2 584 0400  
Email: [gboutini@unicef.org](mailto:gboutini@unicef.org)

**Anne-Claire Dufay**  
Deputy Special Representative  
UNICEF State of Palestine  
Tel: +972 (0)2 584 0400  
Email: [adufay@unicef.org](mailto:adufay@unicef.org)

**Kumiko Imai**  
Chief Social Policy, M & E  
UNICEF State of Palestine  
Tel: +972 (0)2 584 0400  
Email: [kimai@unicef.org](mailto:kimai@unicef.org)

## SUMMARY OF PROGRAMME RESULTS

	Overall needs <sup>5</sup>	UNICEF Response			Cluster Response		
		2017 Target	Total Results	Change since last report <sup>6</sup> ▲▼	2017Target	Total Results	Change since last report ▲▼
<b>WATER, SANITATION &amp; HYGIENE</b>	<b>1,461,800</b>						
# of people in humanitarian situation benefited from improved access to water	535,000	85,644	14,831	224	209,000	58,835	33,153
# of people in humanitarian situation benefited from improved access to sanitation services	215,000	20,486	1,950	600	121,000	32,372	2,376
# of people attending sessions on positive hygiene behaviors	1,240,000	23,147	2,400	2,400	163,000	29,320	3,162
# of students and teachers with access to improved WASH facilities in schools	106,000	25,826	0	0 <sup>7</sup>	25,826	0	0
<b>CHILD PROTECTION</b>	<b>543,160</b>						
# of children benefiting from structured child protection interventions including life skills programs	284,869	53,696	10,030	3,842	176,000	73,767	30,849
# of children, women and men who receive information on their rights and access legal services.	3,989	1,500	435	203	1,500	435	203
# of incidents of grave violations against children monitored and documented	2,500	2,467	1,885 <sup>8</sup>	-442	2,467	1,885	-442
# of people (children and caregivers) receive ERW risk education, including children	251,802	46,596	8,220	4,530	175,000	62,637	23,594
<b>EDUCATION</b>	<b>521,569</b>						
# of children benefited from provision of supplies and materials	472,319	40,000	0 <sup>9</sup>	0	292,852	297,729	279,921
# of children and teachers benefiting from protective presence / accompaniment to school	6,900	4,700	8,537	0	4,700	8,537	0
# of adolescents participating in life-skills building and community based activities	13,000	3,000	0 <sup>10</sup>	0	3,000	0	0
# of children in grades 13 to 6 benefitting from catch up classes	80,104	2,000	0 <sup>11</sup>	0	66,984	0	0

<sup>5</sup> The overall need per sector is aligned to the needs reflected in the Humanitarian Response Plan (HRP) 2017 published by UNOCHA and is not the sum of indicators under that section to avoid double counting.

<sup>6</sup> The progress reflects the change since last SitRep, April 2017.

<sup>7</sup> It is expected to reach the target by end of 2017 considering the newly signed PCAs for WASH in schools in Gaza and West bank.

<sup>8</sup> This figure represents incidents of grave violations against children covering Q1 and Q2 of 2107. IT does not reflect numbers from Q4 of 2016

<sup>9</sup> Education in 2017 faced lack of funding, which has had a negative impact in supporting the educational needs and life-skills development of the most vulnerable children and adolescents.

<sup>10</sup> It is expected to reach the target considering the running PCAs for adolescents' programmes in Gaza and West bank

<sup>11</sup> It is expected to reach the target considering the running PCA for catch-up classes' programmes in Gaza.

<b>HEALTH and NUTRITION</b>	<b>998,443</b>						
# of children and women benefiting from emergency health care services / supplies	<b>998,443</b>	95,000	78,239	47,939	535,443	78,239	47,939
# of vulnerable children and their mothers who benefit from targeted outreach health care interventions	<b>998,443</b>	16,625	14,333	6,136	535,443	14,333	6,136
# of children provided with life – saving neonate care services	<b>7,253</b>	500	3,335	1,783	500	3,335	1,783