



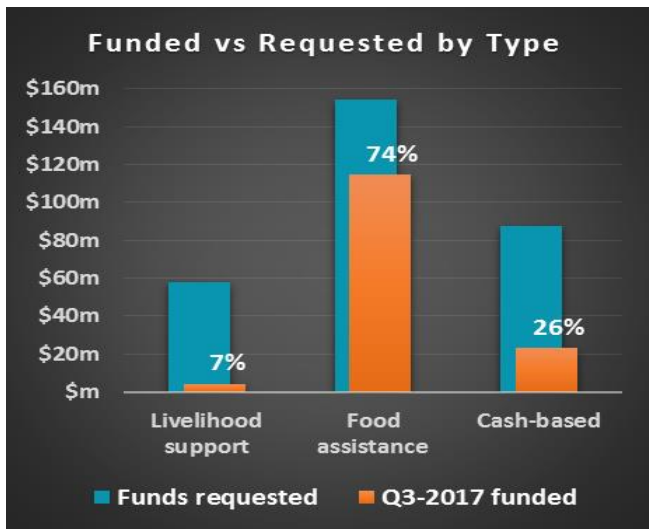
Humanitarian Response Plan 2017 progress

Funding

47%

\$142m

\$300m



Funds distribution

\$142m

73% GS – 27% WB

18 projects

11 GS – 5 WB – 2 WBGS

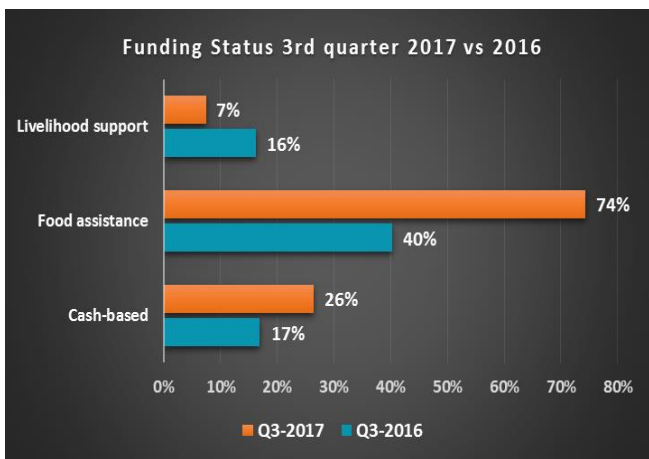
10 organizations

3 UN (95% of funds)

9 NGOs (5% of funds)

8 International (99.3% of funds)

4 Palestinian (0.7% of funds)



Left behind overall from the HRP 2017

\$158m

43 projects

26 NGOs

Almost all beneficiaries of livelihood support interventions: ~340,000 people

The status of the funding as of the third quarter of 2017 shows progress only for food assistance and cash-based programmes, with a 7 percentage point increase for both sectors.

Livelihood support activities remain stuck with a 93% funding gap. It is very likely that 2017 will repeat the pattern of poor achievements in this sector due to lack of funding.

Food assistance funding achievement for Gaza Strip is 79%, while for the West Bank it is 60%. The 40% funding gap in the West Bank mainly relates to the support to non-refugees. Approximately 50,000 non-refugees will not receive this support due to the shortage of funds.

Cash-based interventions are 26% funded overall, but in Gaza Strip the funding gap is 93%. The lack of funding to support cash for work activities is limiting the capacity to assist households whose food insecurity is caused by the continuously high level of unemployment in the Gaza Strip (44%, Q2-2017).

The FSS is co-led by



**Food and Agriculture
Organization of the
United Nations**



**World Food
Programme**

and funded by



Humanitarian Program Cycle – HPC- 2018

The Humanitarian Programme Cycle (HPC) refers to a series of actions undertaken in the management of international humanitarian response operations. These must be conducted, to the extent possible, in collaboration with and in support of national and local authorities.

The HPC is usually a year-round cycle. Two components of the HPC are the definition of the needs through the Humanitarian Needs Overview (HNO), and the elaboration of the plan to address the identified needs through the Humanitarian Response Plan (HRP).

A Multi-Year Humanitarian Response Plan (MYHRP) is a tool for planning and coordinating the delivery of humanitarian aid in protracted crises over several years. It differs from a traditional HRP in its focus on establishing a longer-term response strategy. A MYHRP can facilitate a more effective humanitarian response, with protection at its core, aiming at a more predictable and realistic/appropriate operational arrangements, and a greater focus on the sustainability of results. For the year 2018, in oPt a MYHRP is being implemented.



In this quarter, the FSS coordination team kicked off the process to start preparations for the HPC 2018.

In August, FSS partners started preparations for the HPC 2018. During August the FSS coordination team called for dedicated workshops in both West Bank and Gaza Strip in order to facilitate the making of the HNO, and drafting priorities of the response. More

than 100 attendees representing 45 organizations participated in these two workshops.



Following these workshops, the FSS team organized a second round of workshops in September, in order to articulate priorities of the response, defining most relevant activities and elaborating FSS indicators.

For the HRP 2018, the FSS team in cooperation with line ministries, designed a new coordination mechanism, with the intention of harmonizing partners' response plan with assessed needs, avoiding duplications.

The coordination mechanism was presented during the workshops: partners interested to contribute to the HRP, communicated their draft plan in advance, in order to make an initial mapping of the response.

In parallel, the FSS team worked with line ministries staff in order to elaborate lists of quantitative needs for both West Bank and Gaza Strip, at governorate level. This included basic assets and vulnerable groups that will be targeted by most of the FSS partners under the HPC 2018.

20 partners expressed their intention to participate in the HRP 2018 in West Bank, and 30 in Gaza Strip. The exchange of information generated by the coordination mechanism, triggered a series of initiatives among FSS partners that resulted the adaptation of plans and a redefinition of intervention areas.



Information management

The FSS team continued efforts to finalize the information system accessible to all FSS partners. The work focused mainly on analysing the features already existing in the MoA software, as well as elaborating the information flow for the new system. By end of this quarter, the MoA team was provided with the preliminary version of the system in order to test it and provide their feedback and comments.

Resilience Marker (RM)

During this quarter, the Review Committee provided a series of recommendations that will be incorporated into the Resilience Marker (RM) tools. It was clarified that the RM, in its current design, will not be used as part of the vetting criteria for the HRP projects due to the significant efforts required, which cannot fit within the tight HRP schedule.

In addition, the time allocated to some process' phases should be adjusted, to better reflect the real effort required.

The Review Committee endorsed the RM tool. The next steps will focus on applying the RM to the HRP 2018 projects, under the FSS.

SEFSec survey

The FSS team initiated contact with relevant parties, for the preparation of the SEFSec survey 2018. In contrast to previous editions, the next SEFSec survey will source part of the required funds outside the FSS and UN Agencies budget, as the data collection will be carried out thanks to funds from the Netherlands Representative Office channeled through a project implemented by the Palestinian NGO UAWC.

PCBS will remain as the agency in charge of data collection, and the FSS will continue to facilitate the overall process. Initial meetings took place in July, in order to introduce new parties, and start preparation on the overall work plan.



Major events

- 3 FSS general meetings in both WB and GS
- 5 ICCG meeting in both WB and GS
- Field visits with partners
- 3 HPC workshops under the FSS preparation for the HPC-2018 process
- 1 Ad-hoc ICCG meeting to specifically discuss the electricity crisis and impact.
- Emergency meeting with the HC and ICCG in Gaza on the impact of energy crisis.
- Inter-cluster meetings on HPF allocation.
- Cash programming working group meeting.
- Assessment and Information working group at ICCG level meeting.
- Resilience marker panel review-2nd session.

Humanitarian Fund

The oPt Humanitarian Fund (HF) standard allocation granted \$1.25m for FSS projects, to enable the rehabilitation of 4 water wells; to install 18,000 meters of water carrier lines; to plant 1,110 dunums of open field lands with different types of seasonal vegetables; and to rehabilitate 10 kilometres of roads (only in the West Bank). During the third quarter, the implementing partners in both West Bank and Gaza Strip completed the preparation phase of the project including staffing arrangements, selection and verification of beneficiaries with the Ministry of Agriculture, as well as tendering, contracting and procurement processes. It is planned that work on the ground will start by the coming quarter.

Gaza Strip Reserve allocation

Field visits have been conducted by FSS team and HF staff in both Gaza Strip and West Bank for the HF 1st Allocation 2017. Follow up activities and the monitoring of implementation progress was conducted during the field visits.

Due to the emerging energy crisis, the oPt Humanitarian Fund (HF) management called for the Gaza Reserve Allocation 2017 in this quarter with a total of \$5.3 million. Three most affected clusters/sectors were involved in this allocation, Health, WASH and FSS. Eligible projects were selected according to the allocation paper criteria. Efforts were taken with FSS partners to check the validity criteria for submission, and the in-depth elaboration of the call. 12 projects were submitted and reviewed during a first round of the FSS technical committee, facilitated by the FSS team.

The HF Strategic Review Committees met, analysed and vetted all projects. Under the FSS, proposals submitted by NDC, RWDS PUI and Mercy Corps were selected as the top four projects, based on the pre-defined criteria and through the scoring process.



From WFP

Over the third quarter of the year, WFP assisted 473,000 food insecure non-refugees in Gaza and the West Bank, through both cash-based transfers (CBT) - using an electronic card redeemable in local shops - and in-kind food assistance. Women and children accounted for 70 percent of those assisted. WFP food assistance was critical in meeting their immediate food needs, stabilizing their dietary diversity, protecting their livelihoods and mitigating the devastating and accumulative impact of decades of conflict on their socio-economic status. Thanks to donor support (United States, Switzerland, Spain, France, private sector companies), WFP's voucher funding requirements under the United Nations Gaza emergency appeal (USD 4 million) covering the period July-September were secured. It enabled WFP, through its network of 87 contracted shops, to provide continued

assistance to 92,000 people in all Gaza governorates. Food assistance has been critical in the current Gaza context where the power shortages of up to 20 hours per day continue to seriously undermine the dire living conditions and further stretch the coping mechanisms of the poorest, including WFP beneficiaries who live in deep poverty with less than USD 3.2 per day. WFP, together with other United Nations agencies, also provided emergency assistance to vulnerable Bedouin communities living in area C of the West Bank whose houses have been demolished. In July, August and September, WFP provided emergency voucher assistance to 62 people for a total of USD 1,100, following OCHA's recommendations and WFP's assessments. Since the beginning of the year, WFP assisted 258 people with emergency vouchers for a total value of USD 4,300.



Photo: WFP/Asma` Nassar. A Gazan family recipient of WFP's food assistance upon redeeming their electronic voucher at a neighbouring shop in Jabalia

In the third quarter of 2017, FAO continued to enhance resilience and support livelihoods of farmers and herders throughout the West Bank and Gaza Strip. The distribution of immediate relief to 1 380 households benefitting approximately 8 000 people was completed between July and August among vulnerable 46 Bedouin and herder communities in Area C of the West Bank. The emergency in-kind support of animal feed and poultry units helped vulnerable communities to maintain their livelihoods and avoid negative coping strategies. This emergency assistance was delivered under a Humanitarian Pooled Fund project.



Photo: FAO/Amro Kalouti. Bedouin herders receive animal feed in Area C.

FAO is providing emergency agricultural support to protect the food and nutrition security of 123 low resilience households in the Gaza Strip, benefiting over 730 individuals. Targeted households are receiving assistance to encourage the production, consumption and sale of nutritious foods in local markets. The establishment of livestock and vegetable units is due to be completed in Q4 2017. With support from this programme, 53 small farms in North Gaza benefited from the successful connection of the agricultural water well to the electricity grid which

enables them to irrigate their farm land and strengthens their resilience. This programme is supported by the Government of Brazil.

In September 2017, Palestine achieved a major milestone with the approval of the first ever National Food Safety Strategy (2017-2022) by the Cabinet. The strategy was developed with technical support from FAO thanks to the contributions of the Governments of Netherlands and Switzerland. The strategy provides clear guidance for coordinated, multi-sectoral actions to ensure food safety for Palestinian people for the next five years.

The strategy commits to modernizing food safety laws, regulations, standards and enforcement, strengthening food control systems, developing national capacity in risk analysis and control and prevention of foodborne diseases. The strategy aligns with international standards and alert systems such as the joint FAO-WHO 'Codex Alimentarius' on international food standards and the International Food Safety Authorities Network (INFOSAN).



Photo: FAO/Marco Longari. Food safety practices should be followed at all stages of food production and preparation: from farm to fork.