



Food and Agriculture  
Organization of the  
United Nations



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# The West Bank and Gaza Strip

## Humanitarian Response Plan 2018



to assist  
**68 700 people**



FAO requires  
**USD 13.8 million**



period  
**January – December 2018**

Given the humanitarian impact of the protracted protection crisis, urgent assistance is required to strengthen livelihood resilience and improve the food security of vulnerable people.

In the West Bank and Gaza Strip, thousands of Palestinians continue to be affected by the protracted crisis, repeated shocks, restrictions on movement of goods and people, limited productive capacities and lack of economic opportunities. These have eroded the resilience of vulnerable families and their capacity to cope.

### Objectives

FAO is working with partners in the Food Security Sector to:

- Help alleviate erosion of livelihoods.
- Increase the resilience of vulnerable families.
- Promote innovative farming and sustainable use of land and water resources.

### Activities



#### Restore agricultural production

rehabilitation of farms and productive assets | solar energy systems | pest control | training | promote sustainable use of land and water resources



#### Support women and youth in herding communities

animal shelter | water cisterns | animal health | dairy processing | fodder production



#### Strengthen food security coordination

strategic planning | collect, analyse and plan for food security needs, gaps and responses | stakeholder coordination | preparedness and contingency planning

## Situation analysis



**1.6 million people**  
food insecure



**46 % of women-headed** households in the Gaza Strip are severely and moderately food insecure

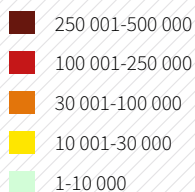


**29.8%** was the unemployment rate in the West Bank and Gaza Strip in 2017

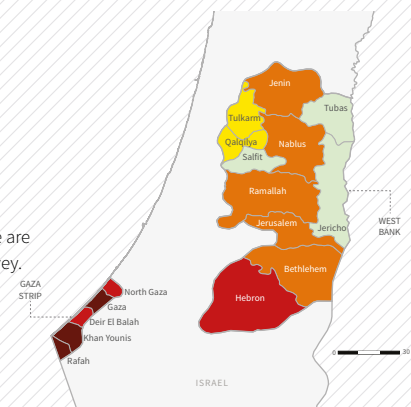


**40 000 children** in the Gaza Strip suffer from micronutrient deficiencies

## Number of people food insecure (December 2017)



Food security numbers of people are elaborated from the SEFSec Survey.



Source: 2018 Humanitarian Needs Overview

## Impact on food security

Food security in the West Bank and Gaza Strip continues to be affected by the protracted nature of the crisis, with an overall prevalence of food insecurity of 23 percent. Poor food utilization due to low quality of water, sanitation and hygiene, limited access to health care and the declining quality of diets also contribute to food insecurity. The situation has been further aggravated by the energy and salary crises, which have reduced economic resources at household level, negatively impacting the agriculture sector due to increased costs of production and cold-storage facilities.

Food-insecure people show low resilience capacity, particularly in the Gaza Strip, where around 40 percent of households are severely or moderately food insecure. Women-headed households face higher levels of food insecurity, as they struggle to produce nutritious and diversified food for household consumption and local markets. Although women contribute more than 60 percent to labour requirements in agriculture, they own or co-own only 7.2 percent of agricultural holdings. Unemployment rates in the West Bank and Gaza Strip are particularly high, and are even higher among women – 71.5 percent compared with 36.2 percent for men in the Gaza Strip, and more than double that of men in the West Bank.

Agriculture-dependent communities in Area C, including Bedouin and herder communities, face challenges in accessing essential natural resources and more efficient technologies and infrastructure. Inadequate access to water and costly fodder limit the sustainability of farming and herding in the West Bank. Water has become an expensive commodity, particularly in remote areas, with lack of proper infrastructure, restrictions on essential maintenance of irrigation systems, and a lack of licenses issued for new well drillings. Fodder production suffers from restrictions on access to agricultural lands.

## CONTACTS

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