

1. Epidemiological situation (WHO data: as of 25 March 2020)

Number of cases including Palestine refugees (PRs)

- Lebanon: 333 cases, (PRs: 1 & 3?)*, 16 recovered, 4 deaths (local trans)*
- West Bank: 64 cases, (PRs: 8)*, 16 recovered, 1 death (PR) (local trans)*
- Jordan: 172 cases, (PRs: 0)*, 1 recovered, 0 deaths (local trans)*
- Gaza: 9 cases, (PRs: 1)*, 0 deaths (local trans)*
- Syria: 5 cases, (PRs: 0)*, 0 deaths (imported cases only)*

ALL COUNTRIES at HIGH RISK: COVID-19 PANDEMIC

(* MoH, * Not officially declared, ? suspected & under investigation)

2. UNRWA operations

Global situation (WHO)

 416,686 cases 18,589 deaths, 196 countries/areas/territories with cases

Situation in neighbouring countries

- Iran: 27,017 cases, 2,077 deaths
- Iraq: 346 cases, 29 deaths
- Egypt: 442 cases, 21 deaths
- Israel: 2,170 cases, 5 deaths

Field	Affected operations
Gaza	Access for persons to Gaza strip is restricted. Rafah terminal opened for urgent medical cases only and for returning Palestinians who are quarantined. FO and AO staff started telecommuting except for emergency leadership. Schools and vocational training centres remain closed. RSSP offices are closed, with no home visits except in emergency cases. Hotlines established at all HCs. Construction works and shelter activity suspended temporarily. ED reaching ~ 50% of students with content via WhatsApp.
West Bank (WB)	Curfew, monitored by Security Forces, is imposed all over the WB, with closure of all Ministries. Schools and all Microfinance branches remain closed. FO and HQ staff based in Jerusalem are telecommuting. RSSP launched psychosocial hotline. RSS AOs are opened, offer services and contact PRs, especially vulnerable families. Camp sterilizing is ongoing for camps. UNRWA vehicles were redeployed to staff as needed. Food distribution with WFP for Bedouins continue (Hebron, Jerusalem and Nablus).
Jordan	All ports still closed excluding commercial freight traffic. Curfew is still ongoing until further notice except for persons holding e-permits to use cars. People of ages 16-60 can get on feet, from 10:00- 18:00, their needs from opened shops. Ed. inst., MF branches and CBOs are closed. Public and private sector closed, except for vital sectors. UNRWA FO & AOs are closed, and staff are telecommuting. Guards and sanitation labourers work normally. PRS families and offered health awareness.
Lebanon	Lockdown of the country is intensified, and all citizens to self-quarantine at homes. Travel between governorates and all communal transport is suspended. HCs are open during 8:00-14:00. UNRWA staff were granted the ability to travel. Schools and training centres are closed, and a self-learning programme is rolled out. FO and AOs are closed, and staff are telecommuting. Airport, land borders and the seaport are closed. HC and sanitation staff use UNRWA cars, and some UNRWA buses also running.
Syria	Govt of Syria has declared country-wide curfew from 6 pm to 6 am. Markets, commercial services, cultural and social activities are closed, excluding essential services. Government ministries reduced their work force. Emergency food distribution continues, with social distancing. UNRWA schools, training centres and CBOs are closed. Disinfection and cleaning activities ongoing in schools. Food & Cash assistance, Sanitation and Security staff work in full capacity. Office time across SFO is 8:30 to 14:00. Reduction in number of PRs receiving cash. Registration staff are serving PRs visiting offices.
HQ	Since Wednesday 18 March 2020, HQA offices are closed, and staff are working remotely.

All HCs are operational (except Jordan, and 1 HCs in WB serving Didou due to 5 conf. cases). Staff use protective personal equipment (PPE). Triage and decreasing the contact and stay time in the HCs, resulted in a drop in the number of patients. NCD patients offered medicines to cover 2-3 months. Some non-critical medical services reduced/ suspended and vary among fields. Telemedicine is done or underway. Plans to reduce numbers of health staff. PPE provided also to sanitation laborers, distribution staff, and security guards in most fields.

3. Five tips for your children's wellbeing during COVID-19 crisis



- For inquiries: Fields: <u>Health Focal Points on COVID-19</u>, HQA: Dr. Yousef Shahin at (+962) 791300822 or <u>y.shahin2@unrwa.org</u>.
- UNRWA's Facebook page to watch videos on FB-COVID-19 (Corona)
- For more info, please visit the following websites: <u>WHO</u> <u>WHO/Eastern</u> <u>Mediterranean Office</u>

Please email us at: <u>unrwa-covid19@unrwa.org</u> for any questions.