

1. Epidemiological situation (WHO data: as of 8 April 2020)
Number of cases including Palestine refugees (PRs)

- Lebanon: 575 cases, (PRs: 1)*, 35 recovered, 19 deaths (local trans)*
- West Bank: 250 cases, (PRs: 34)*, 38 recovered, 1 death (PR) (local trans)*
- Jordan: 358 cases, (PRs: 0)*, 150 recovered, 6 deaths (local trans)*
- Gaza: 13 cases, (PRs: 9)*, 8 recovered, 0 deaths (local trans)*
- Syria: 19 cases, (PRs: 0)*, 3 recovered, 2 deaths (imported cases only)*

ALL COUNTRIES at HIGH RISK: COVID-19 PANDEMIC

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

Global situation (WHO) 03:30 pm Amman time

- 1,395,136 cases, 81,580 deaths, 208 countries/areas/territories with cases

Situation in neighbouring countries

- Iran: 64,586 cases 3,993 deaths
- Iraq: 1,122 cases, 65 deaths
- Egypt: 1,450 cases, 94 deaths
- Israel: 9,404 cases, 71 deaths

2. UNRWA Fields of operations summary updates

Access/movement	UNRWA's operations
Gaza Partial lockdown in effect. Erez crossing is shut down for most permit holders and is open for special medical and humanitarian cases only. Rafah Terminal is closed in both directions, opened for imported goods and for urgent medical and humanitarian cases. Returning Palestinians are quarantined upon arrival. Kerem Shalom crossing was closed yesterday. Movement restrictions appear imminent, and a system of ID cards for critical services is under discussion.	Field (FO) and Area Office (AO) staff telecommuting until 15 April, except for Health and other critical staff. Schools and vocational training centres remain closed until further notice. Relief and Social Services (RSSP) offices are closed, with no home visits except in emergency cases. On the seventh day -yesterday- (out of 20 planned) 4,476 families received their food baskets via the new house-to-house delivery modality for food distribution. Daily sterilisation of Health Centres (HCs), sanitation offices, water wells, equipment and vehicles is ongoing. Microfinance has deferred installments for clients for the month of April. Home delivery of essential medicine to the patients aged over 70 and/or with diabetes reached 4,112 patients until yesterday. Toll-free helpline at HCs active, numbers disseminated to community.
West Bank (WB) Curfew imposed across the WB, including to/from East Jerusalem, except for emergencies. Movement restrictions remain severe across the WB. Movement in Ramallah is allowed only during 10:00 am to 5:00 pm. Border villages, including Biddou (decal as epidemic area), Qatanna, Aljdaira, Bitounia and surrounding villages (95% of residents of these villages are refugees) are under curfew & strict lockdown. The state of emergency was extended for another month. All Governorates in the North continue to carry out screening and testing of workers returning from Israel (with 14 days home quarantine). Movement in Halhul, Surif, Sair, Yatta and Bani Na'im is prohibited. IDF continues to close the gates at the entrance of Fawwar camp. The total closure in Tulkarem camp and Qusra village also persists. Entrances to the camps in the Central area and some others have been closed by the Emergency Taskforce in each camp as precautionary measures to control entry/exit of workers returning to the WB from Israel. Curfew is imposed in Jerusalem/Israel from Wednesday 8 April at 15.00hrs to Thursday 9 April at 7.00hrs. These restrictions will not apply in localities where most of the residents are not Jewish.	Arrangements are being made to evacuate and sterilise Thabit (Tulkarem) hospital which is the only government hospital in Tulkarem district servicing more than 200,000 citizens, after discovering a confirmed case among patients. Schools and all Microfinance (MF) branches remain closed. FO are telecommuting until 15 April. RSSP launched a hotline for the provision of psychosocial support. Food distribution with WFP for Bedouins continues. Critical staff, guards, sanitation workers and drivers are on duty. UNRWA vehicles were redeployed to staff as needed. Sterilising campaign continued in the camps in all areas. The AO in Bitounia was affected by the area closure decision which affected the movement of health and the food distribution teams. RSS offices in all areas except Bethlehem are closed, and staff are telecommuting. Health staff from outside Bethlehem started reporting to their duty stations as of yesterday, while, UNRWA Area staff residing in Bethlehem area are still redeployed to work in the Bethlehem installations including some FO staff. Health hotlines are active in the three areas (1 in each), medical officers will respond to health-related inquiries, and will direct psychosocial conditions to counsellors.
Jordan The Jordanian government announced that a comprehensive curfew for two days will be in effect as of midnight (24:00) Thursday 9 April till midnight (24:00) Saturday 11 April. All ports still are closed. The Health Minister said that the airport and borders could remain closed until after Ramadan. Partial curfew in effect (6:00 pm to 10:00 am). Only one person, with an e-permit only, will be allowed per vehicle except for emergency cases. More security forces to enforce the curfew will be deployed in towns and villages. All official UN vehicles, carrying a "7" or "UN" licence plate, are free to move during 10:00 am to 6:00 pm within Amman only, with the driver and any passengers (int. or local) in having at least a UN ID (UNLP is preferred). Movement outside Amman requires prior coordination. The movement permission does not apply to yellow no. '8' plates.	Education institutions, MF branches and CBOs closure extended. Public and private sector closed, except for vital sectors. UNRWA FO & AOs are closed, and staff are telecommuting until 15 April. Guards and sanitation labourers work normally. People aged 16-60 years can go out on foot for to purchase basic commodities. Shops open from 10:00 am to 6:00 pm, with curfew from 6:00 pm to 10:00 am. Until yesterday, health staff delivered, in cooperation with local communities, medicines to a total of 24,109 priority group of patients in all four Areas. UNRWA security Guards work modality in all the installations is back to normal. Microfinance Department made a blanket approval for a 4-month loan repayment deferment starting from April, noting that re-approval is needed every month. JFO is working on the implementation of community-based campaigns at camps to disseminate correct information about COVID-19 and proper preventive measures, and it was agreed on by the Executive Office and the Department of Palestinian Affairs (DPA).
Lebanon All borders are closed. The airport was opened only for this week, for returning Lebanese nationals (about 20,000) stuck in some countries, who are quarantined in hotels rented by the government. Vehicles are only allowed to be on the road on alternate days from Monday - Saturday, and no vehicles will be permitted to move on Sundays. Cars with diplomatic plates are exempted from these measures, as are UN personnel including UNRWA's personnel traveling in their own cars. Lockdown of the country was intensified by General Security Forces and has been extended until 12 April. A country wide curfew is in place, controlled by security forces, from 7:00 pm until 5:00 am with some essential services exempted.	HCs are open between 8:00 am and 2:00 pm. FO and AOs are closed, all staff are telecommuting until 12 April except for health centre staff, environmental health workers and key staff from other programmes. Patients are required to make appointments by phone before coming to their health centres. Schools and training centres are closed. LFO will cover 90% and Palestine Embassy in Lebanon will cover 10% of the hospital cost for confirmed COVID-19 PR cases. In coordination with MSF, LFO is preparing STC's dormitories for use as possible isolation units for mild confirmed COVID-19 cases. All health centres are thoroughly disinfected by sanitation teams daily.
Syria Country-wide curfew in effect from 6:00 pm to 6:00 am. All ports are closed except for cargo trucks. Closure of all commercial activities until further notice, excluding foodstuffs, pharmacies, cleaning centres, and medical supplies. Government ministries reduced their work force. Movement is prevented between governorates, and between urban and rural areas excluding those with permits, emergency services, main services providers, health workers and the press. All UN staff are permitted to move freely within two governorates (Homs & Hama), and are subject to curfew in other areas. Effective from yesterday at 2:00 pm until further notice, there is a ban of recreational activities (touring and hiking) in Rabwah area, in Al-Jahez park and in public parks in Damascus City, and the implementation will be supervised by the Police.	Emergency food (25% families covered) and emergency cash distribution (covered 86% of beneficiaries) continue. Additional food distribution points were opened to reduce overcrowding and to reach more beneficiaries. UNRWA schools, training centres and CBOs are closed. Disinfection and cleaning of camps is ongoing. Sanitation and Security staff work in full capacity. Office time across Syria FO is 8:30 am to 2:00 pm. Critical staff come to the office on shifts; other staff are telecommuting until 16 April. MoFA has approved travel of UNRWA's staff between rural areas and cities, and this is helping in the continuation of critical services UNRWA provides. Qaber Essit (QE) area, and QE camp are isolated. All staff based inside QE camp will continue to deliver critical services in the camp, with PPEs. Staff living in QE but working outside were asked not to report to work. Staff who live outside but had travelled to QE last week to work have been asked to 'self-quarantine' and not report to work. Hotlines, details shared with the beneficiaries via FB, are set up across SFO to enable them to inquire about services provided by UNRWA. MF offices are closed, no new loans are being provided, and interest rates on current loans will be deferred for 4 months. Masks for non-medical use are being produced at the TVET Centre in Central Area.

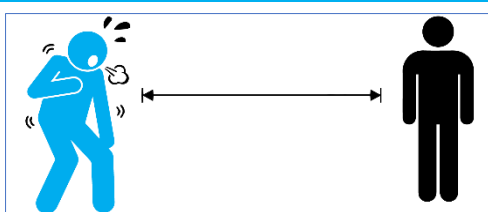
HQ (Amman, Jerusalem and Gaza)

Same as field of operations

All HQ offices are closed, and most staff are telecommuting until 15 April.

UNRWA Liaison offices: Staff are telecommuting as follows: Cairo Office until 15 April, NY and Washington until 30 April, and Brussels until 19 April (if there is no substantial change by then, measures will continue to be applicable until 3 May)

All HCs are operational (In Jordan 19 HCs opened to dispense home-to-home NCD medicines (the other 6 closed since they finished this activity), and in WB, Biddou HC is closed). Health staff, sanitation labourers, distribution staff, and security guards use protective personal equipment (PPE). A drop in the number, down to 50%, of patients at HCs has been observed. HCs are implementing triage for patients with respiratory symptoms and are taking measures to limit the contact time and time of stay at HCs. NCD patients received medicines to cover 2-3 months of treatment. Some medical services have been reduced/ suspended depending on the fields. Plans for telemedicine/hotlines finalized/in progress as well as plans to reduce health staff where appropriate.

3. NEW: Due to increasing size of the content in this sitrep, it will come out with a NEW design & format VERY SOON!


Please stay home as much as you can, and keep a social distance of 1-2 meters, especially with those who show respiratory symptoms

 Please email us at: unrwa-covid19@unrwa.org for any questions.