



World Food Programme

SAVING
LIVES
CHANGING
LIVES



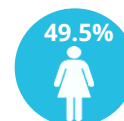
DAYS OF ACTIVISM
AGAINST GENDER-BASED VIOLENCE



WFP Palestine Country Brief November 2022

In Numbers

371,812 people assisted
in November 2022



US\$ 3.1 m cash-based transfers

US\$ 9.8 m cash-based transfers (service provision*)

* WFP's service provision to humanitarian and development partners to assist 638,202 people

US\$ 34.2 m six months (December 2022-May 2023)
net funding requirements

Operational Context

In Palestine, protracted conflict, economic stagnation, restricted trade and access to resources, coupled with high unemployment and poverty rates, continue to pose serious challenges to the food security and nutrition situation. As economic conditions worsened due to the Ukraine crisis, the purchasing power of Palestinians is further eroding and disrupting their access to food and other essentials. For vulnerable and food insecure non-refugees in Palestine, WFP is the largest provider of food assistance.

In Gaza, the recent August 2022 escalation of violence left many additional families in need of assistance. This has exacerbated the dire humanitarian situation there after 15 years of the Israeli blockade, aggravated by having one of the world's highest unemployment rates and deep poverty. In the West Bank, settlement activity and related violence, loss of land, destruction of property, and restricted access to basic services continue undermining Palestinians' livelihoods.

One-third of the Palestinian population, 1.79 million people, suffer from food insecurity, of which, 1.1 million are severely food insecure; most of them (90 percent) live in Gaza. WFP regularly provides food assistance to the most vulnerable food insecure groups of the Palestinian population.

Under the 2018-22 Country Strategic Plan, WFP aims to provide food assistance to 435,170 of the most vulnerable non-refugees via in-kind food rations and cash-based transfers in the form of electronic food vouchers. In contribution to the humanitarian-development-peace nexus, WFP is supporting community resilience in the face of repeated shocks and increased hardships, contributing to maintaining peace and stability and stimulating the local economy. WFP also works with national institutions to enhance the capacity of existing social safety nets to assist the poor and vulnerable.

Population: **5.2 million**

2019 Human Development Index: **115 out of 189**

Poverty rate: **31.1 percent**

Severe and moderate malnutrition: **7.4 %** of children between 6-59 months

Operational Updates

- In November, WFP supported 371,812 people in need. Of those, 298,812 received cash-based transfers. The quarterly in-kind distributions reached 73,000 people in Gaza and the West Bank with 2,240 mt of wheat flour, chickpeas, lentils, salt and vegetable oil.
- WFP continued the provision of its technical expertise and cash-based transfer (CBT) platform to four humanitarian agencies to facilitate the implementation of their projects. Through this service provision in November, WFP enabled assistance to about 638,202 individuals in Gaza and the redemption of about US\$ 9.8 million.
- On 28 November, WFP Palestine began the beneficiary verification exercise, with its implementing partner Global Communities, to update its beneficiary database and ensure the assistance is reaching the intended beneficiaries. WFP has also updated the design of the electronic vouchers to reflect the wide scope of humanitarian assistance provided by WFP and other partners who use WFP's cash-based transfer platform. The verification exercise is allowing beneficiaries exchanging their old cards with new ones.
- In continuation of the newly launched fisherpersons livelihood project, WFP introduced a boat-making training for youth in Gaza to empower young women and men with skills that can help them make an income. The project aims to revitalize the struggling fishing sector, which remains a vital industry in Gaza's economy despite the challenges.
- WFP continues to monitor market prices and food security. In October 2022, the cost of staple food commodities provided by the WFP in-kind ration has increased by 22.6 percent since last year. WFP continues to provide in-kind rations to the most vulnerable families, including Bedouin and herding communities in the West Bank to compensate for the loss of purchasing power. The monthly market dashboard can be found [here](#).

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Photo Caption: Fishnets and fishing supplies provided to fisherpersons in Gaza by WFP as part of its livelihood's interventions to enhance their opportunities for income
WFP/Ali Jadallah

Country Strategic Plan (2018-2022)

Total Requirements (in USD)		Total Received* (in USD)
542 m		454 m
2022 Requirements (in USD)	2023 Requirements (in USD)	Six-Month Net Funding Requirements (in USD) (December 2022 May 2023)
196.5 m	150 m	34.3 m

* Total received calculated excluding outstanding advances

Strategic Result 1: Everyone has access to food (SDG 2)

Strategic Outcome #: Non-refugees, poor and severely food-insecure people have improved dietary diversity by 2022

Focus area: Crisis response

Activities 01:

Provision of unconditional food assistance – including through cash-based transfers (CBT) and in-kind modalities- and nutrition information to poor and food-insecure households.

Strategic Result 2: Support to the implementation of the SDGs (SDG 17)

Strategic Outcome #: Enhanced capacities of national institutions and systems to identify, target and assist food insecure vulnerable populations in Palestine by 2022

Focus area: Resilience-building

Activities 02, 03:

- Technical support to national ministries and institutions on food security strategy; Provision of a CBT platform to multi-sectoral partners and Government

Strategic Result 8: Sharing of knowledge, expertise and technology strengthen global partnership support to country efforts to achieve the SDGs (SDG target 17.16)

Strategic Outcome #: Palestinians benefit from the services provided to partners through WFP's delivery platform

Focus area: Resilience-building

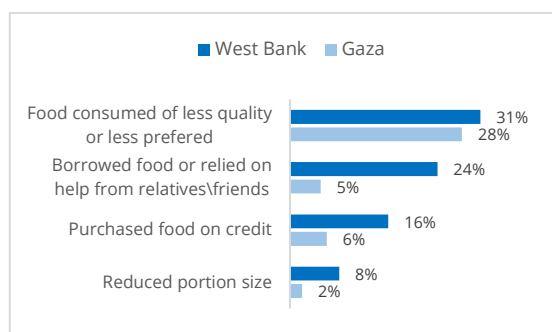
Activities 04:

- Service provision of WFP's delivery platform to partners

Monitoring

- WFP is contactable through dedicated for information on available support, targeting criteria, and feedback. In November, the hotlines responded to **nearly 13,160 calls**, and around **1.5 million SMS messages** for sensitization were sent to those supported by WFP and its service provision.
- WFP conducted **663 face-to-face interviews** with recipients of cash-based transfers (electronic vouchers) and in-kind food across the West Bank and the Gaza Strip. Of the interviewed families, 22 percent were households headed by women and around 23 percent had at least one household member with disabilities.

- WFP findings showed that 12 percent of the households in Gaza and 10 percent in the West Bank had poor food consumption scores (FCS), while 61 percent in Gaza and 71 percent in the West Bank had acceptable FCS.
- Many families continued relying on negative coping mechanisms to meet their food needs due to the global surge in food prices (in percentage):



Challenges

- The current available funding enables WFP to reach 375,000 people every month until March 2023. Beyond March, WFP will have to suspend assistance unless new funding is received.

The Spell of Resilience: Hope, big dreams, and hard work

Malak is a 21-year-old bookworm and a curious mind from Hebron. Despite the difficulties of taking care of her chronically ill mother and her two siblings, she always has a smile on her face and looks towards the future. She tirelessly tries to support her family by working a part-time job, while continuing to excel at university. Malak's family has been receiving WFP assistance for many years, Malak says it has been crucial in ensuring her family can afford nutritious food. Every month, she heads out to the nearest shop to buy the food they need using the WFP e-voucher.



Donors Belgium, Canada, EU, France, Germany, Japan, the Russian Federation, Spain, Switzerland, UAE, UK, UN Humanitarian Fund (HF), USA, Talabat and other private donors (Strategic Outcome 1). SDG Fund, Germany (BMZ) (Strategic Outcome 2). More information [here](#).