

Drawing class at adolescent summer activities in Gaza during the school break ©UNICEF/SOP/Anees

State of Palestine

Humanitarian Situation Report



July - September 2019

Highlights

- During the reporting period, over 321,000 people had improved access to safe drinking water in the Gaza Strip and the West Bank following the rehabilitation of water systems.
- Through family centers in Gaza, around 7,000 children (51% girls) were reached
 with individual and group counselling, life skills, child/parent interaction
 sessions and other group psychosocial support activities. Over 1,600 children
 were reached with urgent individual case management support.
- In the West Bank, around 1,500 children received psychosocial support through recreational activities. More than 80 children (57% girls) received structured psychosocial support and protection services.
- Over 6,400 children received protective presence on their way to and from schools in Area C and the H2 area of Hebron city in the West Bank.
- More than 13,600 young children (48% girls) were screened for malnutrition and 2,500 children were treated for malnutrition (1,300 children) and anemia (1,200 children).
- Since March 2018, insecurity and demonstrations in the Gaza Strip have continued as part of the Great March of Return (GMR) resulting in 64 children killed in conflict-related incidents in Gaza, including 43 in the context of demonstrations. According to OCHA, more than 8,300 were injured including 4,000 that were referred to hospitals.
- There is a US\$ 5.9 million gap in funding required for the year with most critical gaps in WASH, education and cluster coordination.

2,500,000

Total people in need (UN OCHA Humanitarian HRP 2019)

1,100,000

Total children (<18) in need (UN OCHA Humanitarian HRP 2019)

429,000

of children to be reached (UNICEF Humanitarian Action for Children 2019)

657,900

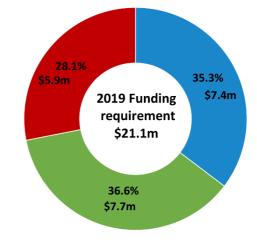
of people to be reached (UNICEF Humanitarian Action for Children 2019)

UNICEF Appeal 2019

US\$ 21.1 million

Funding Status*

US\$ 15.1 million available



■ Funds Received ■ Carry-over ■ Funding Gap

* Funds available include funding received for the current appeal year as well as the carry-forward from the previous year.

UNICEF Response with Partners

**	Overall	UNICEF	and IPs	Cluster Response	
	Needs	2019 Target	Total Results	2019 Target	Total Results
WASH: # of people in humanitarian situation benefited from improved access to water	1,900,635	320,226	321,205	732,165	485,352
Child Protection: # of children who receive interventions including life skills, group and individual counselling and child-parent interaction programs	339,075	13,250	7,895	35,472	32,018
Education: # of children benefiting from protective presence / accompaniment to school	8,226	6,700	6,447	6,900	6,447
Health: # of women and children under the age of five benefited from medical supplies	398,453	94,295	130,161	NA	485,352

Health are cumulative; results for 2019 are point-in-time measures of coverage

^{**}Total results for WASH, Child Protection, Education &

Humanitarian Situation and Needs:

The protracted and acute crises continue to generate severe humanitarian needs among the Palestinian populations of the West Bank including Gaza, and East Jerusalem. The deterioration in living conditions in Gaza continues to affect about one million children.

Estimated Population in Need of Humanitarian Assistance (Estimates calculated based on the Humanitarian Response Plan 2019)1					
	Total	Male ²	Female		
Total Population in Need	2,500,000	1,272,500	1,227,500		
Children (Under 18)	1,100,000	559,900	540,100		
Total people to be reached	657,900	334,871	323,029		
Total children to be reached	429,000	218,361	210,639		

Following rockets fired from the Gaza Strip in August, Israeli authorities responded with a 50% reduction in the amount of fuel allowed into Gaza for the Gaza Power Plant. The normal entry of fuel resumed on the 1st of September 2019.

Ten children have been killed since the beginning of 2019 in the context of the Great March of Return in Gaza, while 1,388 children have been reported hospitalized due to injuries. According to OCHA reports, since 30 March 2018, 43 children (42 boys and one girl) have been killed in Gaza in the context of demonstrations, and more than 8,300³ reported injured, with over 4,000 requiring hospital treatment. The growing needs in Gaza have overwhelmed the capacities of health and child protection service providers. Timely case management support is needed to prevent disabilities and manifestation of mental health illnesses and other protection issues. There are insufficient safe play areas, as well recreational opportunities and leisure activities for the children in Gaza, which is particularly a problem during summertime. Children with Disabilities (CWDs), including children injured during the Great March of Return events, are the most affected by the deteriorating situation, as many of them lack basic assistive devices that would facilitate their learning in the classroom. Others have suffered injuries that may keep them hospitalized or with a permanent disability where they will require remedial education support.

The increase in electricity supply in the Gaza Strip since October 2018 has improved the delivery of water and sanitation services, while reducing expenditure on fuel for back-up generators for households and businesses. This increase has also reduced the need for the emergency fuel provided by the UN to avert the collapse of key service providers. The dual-use restrictions on medical equipment and a shortage of medicines and disposables have been major contributors to the evolving health crisis in Gaza. Medical consumables and supplies are also depleted. The hospitals have limited capacity to deal with the caseload of injuries that require complex treatment resulting from the demonstrations at the fence and this affects equal health services to women and children. Due to the Palestinian Authority's (PA) new policy on ending patient referrals to Israeli hospitals, referencing a lack of transparency and the high cost of care, a higher proportion of patients from Gaza and the West Bank are now referred within the Palestinian system or to Jordan and Egypt.

In the West Bank, including East Jerusalem, access to education is heavily compromised by education-related violations facing students and teachers. Children are exposed to conflict-related violence and movement restrictions, which can lead to increased school dropout rates. Access to safe education is compromised by violence and armed search operations in schools; harassment, intimidation and violence towards students and teachers on the way to and from school; severe shortage of classrooms; and demolition or stop work orders on school buildings. In East Jerusalem, the increase in security operations in the city and particularly the almost daily clashes in Isawiya have led to several arrests including of children.

The Palestinian Authority (PA) continues to face severe financial constraints, affecting Palestinians, due to the weakening economy which has the potential to exacerbate the humanitarian situation throughout the West Bank. The agreement concluded in late August, for the PA to receive US\$ 568 million from Israel reimbursed from excise taxes on fuel, is only expected to bring temporary relief. Due to the financial crisis, the PA's ability to continue providing basic health, education, and welfare services beyond the fourth quarter of 2019 remains at risk and serious concerns endure over upholding governance functions unless a solution to the crisis is found.

Humanitarian Leadership and Coordination

UNICEF is part of the UN Country Team and Humanitarian Country Team and regularly coordinates its action with other organizations and local stakeholders. Within this partnership, UNICEF leads the WASH Cluster. UNICEF in partnership with Save the Children co-leads the Education cluster. Within the Protection Cluster, UNICEF leads the Child Protection Working Group and the Mental Health and Psychosocial Support (MHPSS) group. UNICEF co-leads the Nutrition Working Group under the Health Cluster, in Gaza as well as at national level, in close collaboration with the World Health Organization (WHO).

¹ Disaggregated data based on 2018 PCBS population figures (50.9% male and 49.1% female)

² Disaggregated based on 2017 PCBS population figures (50.9% male and 49.1% female)

³ https://www.ochaopt.org/content/humanitarian-snapshot-casualties-context-demonstrations-and-hostilities-gaza-30-mar-2018-2

Humanitarian Strategy

UNICEF and partners continued to foster synergies between humanitarian and development assistance in the State of Palestine, while emphasizing emergency preparedness. For health and nutrition, UNICEF supports neonatal emergency health care, postnatal care, and early childhood development, focusing on children with developmental delays and disabilities. With the deterioration of the water and sanitation situation and the ongoing energy crisis, UNICEF provides safe drinking water through solar power, water tank rehabilitation and network upgrades. Vulnerable households are supported with drinking water taps, latrines, sewage connections and hygiene promotion activities. UNICEF also supports flood preparedness and mitigation activities in high-risk areas. UNICEF regularly delivers critical health and other supplies to the Gaza Strip in response to humanitarian needs.

With the deterioration of the security situation, the strengthening of child protection systems continues to remain a top priority in UNICEF action, including case management and referrals, psychosocial support, legal aid and counselling, and focusing on addressing negative coping mechanisms for adolescents. Monitoring and reporting on child rights and other assessments inform evidence-based advocacy for improved child protection. UNICEF supports children crossing checkpoints in the West Bank with accompaniment to ensure safer access to schools. Children also benefit from educational supplies and remedial learning, as well as emergency preparedness activities targeting adolescents.

Summary Analysis of Programme Response (covering Q3 of 2019)

UNICEF is working in close collaboration with key partners and stakeholders to protect the rights of children and provide needed services for children and their families. The programme areas include WASH, child protection, education and adolescents, as well as health and nutrition.

Water, Sanitation and Hygiene (WASH)

UNICEF continued to support partners to improve access to safe and clean water through the monthly distribution of chlorine (96m³ of Sodium-Hypochlorite Solution) for all public water facilities in the Gaza Strip (280 water wells, 48 desalination plants, and 40 water reservoirs). An estimated 1.9 million people benefit from this intervention reaching out to all residents in Gaza who are connected to the municipal networks.

By September 2019, 321,205 people had improved access to water in Gaza and Area C in the West Bank, through support from UNICEF and partners. UNICEF has also supported the distribution of 3,200 potable water tanks and 1,418 water domestic tanks benefitting 4,618 vulnerable households in different targeted areas of Gaza. UNICEF, with a local partner, supported the distribution of domestic water tanks to 1,600 households including completing the rehabilitation of sanitary facilities in 120 households. Rehabilitation works in 1,200 out 1,500 (80%) sanitary facilities have been completed in addition to 800 households who have already been connected to sewerage networks.

In the period under review, 27,000 people including children benefited from the UNICEF-funded WASH interventions in the Al Zaitoon and Bani Suhaila health centers in Gaza through the rehabilitation of sanitation facilities, provision of a water-well and small-scale desalination unit in each health center. Urgent rehabilitation works were conducted on the old water network in Al Shifa Hospital in Gaza, planned to reach 135,000 people with clean water.

UNICEF in coordination with the Ministry of Health and a partner in the West Bank, supported the installation of household water-treatment and safe storage units for 370 people and hand-washing units in 20 health clinics. In addition, hygiene awareness sessions reached 900 people at the community level.

UNICEF and partners contributed 66 per cent of the WASH Cluster water supply response and 48 per cent of the Cluster WASH supported services in health institutions. UNICEF has received non-emergency funding to provide flood risk prevention in Gaza with works planned to start in Quarter four of 2019.

Several challenges have affected implementation, including delay in the delivery of rehabilitation materials in Gaza as well as the lack of construction materials and Israeli restrictions on movement in Area C and H2.

Child Protection

UNICEF and partners reached over 60 per cent of the 2019 target for psychosocial support (PSS) and 89 per cent of planned specialized legal assistance, contributing 25 and 100 per cent of the Child Protection Area of Responsibility (AoR) response respectively. UNICEF and its local partners in Gaza, through Family Centers, reached 6,965 children (51% girls) with various targeted interventions including individual and group counselling, life skills, child/parent interaction sessions and other group

psychosocial support activities. In addition, 1,672 children (561 girls) were reached with urgent individual case management support. A total of 3,498 caregivers were reached through awareness-raising sessions on the rights of children and 6,667 children and their caregivers were reached with Explosive Remnants of War (ERW) risk education sessions.

In East Jerusalem, arrests and detentions of children remains high with 143 documented cases in the last three months. UNICEF through a legal partner, provided legal aid services to 112 arrested children, aged between 12 and 18 years old, from East Jerusalem. Local partners in the West Bank provided psychosocial support to affected children through recreational activities reaching 1,494 children (675 boys and 819 girls). In addition, 84 children (36 boys and 48 girls) received structured psychosocial support and protection services including individual counselling and group counselling.

During the period under review, 60 emergency staff (45 MoSD staff and 15 NGO staff) received training on Protection Standard Operating Procedures, Child Protection Minimum Standards, Psychological First Aid, Gender-Based Violence, rights of Persons with Disabilities (PwDs) and ERW. UNICEF jointly with a local partner, trained 57 lawyers (22 females) during two group trainings on children's rights aimed to build the capacity of identified lawyers to better respond to juvenile inquiries and needs.

Since the beginning of 2019, the Child Protection/MHPSS AOR partners have reached 32,018 children (15,637 girls and 16,381 boys) with child protection services. In addition, 3,041 children (1,033 girls and 2,008 boys) accessed individual case management support services including 2,025 children with disabilities (949 girls and 1,076 boys). Structured psychosocial support services were also provided to 57,954 caregivers (23% males). Family Centres identified and reached out to 904 injured children through home visits and provision of Psychological First Aid. In September, the CP/MHPSS AOR convened in the West Bank and Gaza to discuss gaps and recommendations of a recent MHPSS study reviewing standards of all services against Inter-Agency Standing Committee (IASC) global standards and guidelines.

Education and Adolescents

As the Education Cluster coordinator along with Save the Children, UNICEF works with the Ministry of Education (MoE) to support conflict-affected children with remedial and active learning, provision of supplies and materials, and structured psychosocial and life skills activities.

During the third quarter of 2019, UNICEF partners accompanied 6,447 children (2,064 girls) on their way to and from schools in Area C and H2 area of Hebron city in the West Bank to safely access checkpoints. These children face severe challenges and threats in accessing their right to education as they must cross military check points and go through closed military zones on their daily commute to school.

In the period under review, 4,595 children (1,907 girls) from grades 3 to 5 in Gaza, were supported through a remedial education programme targeting children at substantial risk of dropout to allow them to catch up with their peers. In addition, UNICEF also provided 7,000 children (50% girls) in Gaza to ensure continuity of their education.

Children's participation in the GMR demonstrations at the perimeter fence and the related exposure to violence has raised need for targeted response efforts to keep children safe and active over the summer months. In Gaza, UNICEF organized summer camps with partners in July and August, benefitting more than 1,600 adolescents (50% girls) with structured psychosocial activities to build their physical and mental health. Moreover, in cooperation with UNRWA, UNICEF reached 92,482 (58% girls) children in Gaza with structured psychosocial activities to strengthen their physical, mental and emotional well-being.

The Education Cluster Gaza has updated the emergency response plan in which UNICEF will help to rapidly deliver education support to affected students in case of disruption due to escalations.

Health & Nutrition

UNICEF and partners supported delivery of health and nutrition services though clinic-based services and community mobilization as well as home visits targeting high-risk pregnant and lactating mothers and their babies in the most vulnerable areas of Gaza. UNICEF and partners supported malnutrition screening for 13,687 young children (7,091 males, 6,596 females) including for Early Childhood Development (ECD) delays. Of these, 1,307 children were treated for malnutrition and 1,208 children for anaemia. In the Middle and North governorates of Gaza, 5,854 high-risk pregnant and lactating mothers benefited from 85 educational counselling sessions on child health, nutrition, hygiene and development. A further 1,308 women benefited from cooking demonstrations which were conducted to improve nutrition awareness for mothers during food preparation.

Furthermore, in Gaza 31 nurses and 40 community activators received training which improved their capacity to conduct community outreach for child health and nutrition interventions including early detection of developmental delays and

disabilities. In addition, 50 community leaders received training during community mobilization workshops on the importance of ECD and children's first 1,000 days. These awareness-raising sessions were conducted to engage and mobilize the most vulnerable communities (North Gaza, Khan Younis, Rafah) to support the delivery of quality health and nutrition services for high risk pregnant lactating women and young children.

A total of 130,161 neonates, children under five and women in Gaza benefited from the provision of lifesaving medical supplies aimed at improving access to adequate health and nutritional care services. UNICEF procured 114 pallets of essential and lifesaving drugs which were distributed to a total of 11 neonatal intensive care units (NICUs) with the most urgent needs in Gaza. In total, 2,155 new-borns benefitted from medical services offered at six NICUs in one paediatric hospital and five maternal hospitals and clinics in Gaza.

UNICEF supported the review and finalization of the protocol, guidelines, data entry tools and monitoring check lists for the provision of Post Natal Home Visit (PNHV) services. A total of 50 nurses and midwives benefitted from two trainings that were conducted on the new PNHV guidelines. PNHV services continued, reaching 3,397 women with education on early postnatal care and danger signs.

UNICEF continued to coordinate the Nutrition Sub-Cluster Working Group activities in Gaza. The key nutrition players and Health Cluster partners have developed an Inter-Agency action plan for Maternal Infant Young Child Nutrition in Emergencies (MIYCF-N), including budgeting an operational plan for the Gaza Strip. The plan will be the basis for HRP proposals.

Media and External Communication

In the third quarter of 2019, UNICEF has conducted joint activities with UN agencies and local partners under the CRC@30 campaign, including commemorating the International Youth Day, World Humanitarian Day, and the "I donated a book" campaign. In September, the UN and EU launched a 30-day awareness-raising walk for child rights along the Masar Ibrahim Al Khalil trail. The walk is divided into 30 segments, with children from local schools walking a different segment each day. A different article of the CRC will be highlighted during each segment of the walk. As part of the campaign, UNICEF released a video containing messages from the heads of UN agencies in the State of Palestine explaining why and how the CRC remains critically important. UNICEF SoP also launched their Website in Arabic language, which includes a special page in Arabic language, which includes a special page in Arabic language, which includes a special page in Arabic language, which includes a special page in Arabic language, which includes a special page in Arabic language, which includes a special page in Arabic language, which includes a special page in Arabic language, which includes a special page in Arabic language, which includes a special page in Arabic language, which includes a special page in Arabic language, which includes a special page in Arabic language, which includes a special page in Arabic language, which includes a special page in Arabic language, which includes a special page in Arabic language, which includes a special page in Arabic language, which

In July 2019, UNICEF and partners launched a series of activities in the West Bank and Gaza in commemoration of International Youth Day. This included a national "I donated a book" campaign, aiming to collect educational books for libraries of marginalized schools. At the end of the campaign, 3,000 books were collected and distributed to schools in the West Bank and Gaza.

Two days of fun activities were organized for children in the West Bank and Gaza within which children learned about their rights and participated in recreational activities. The UNICEF Communications team supported summertime activities which have been organized by the Education section benefitting 1,600 adolescents from the Gaza Strip.

In August, UNICEF celebrated International Humanitarian Day by publishing a <u>case study</u> to celebrate the work of women humanitarians as part of OCHA global campaign and participation in event in the Gaza Strip.

Supply and Logistics

The UNICEF Supply and Logistics team facilitated the procurement, receipt and dispatching of nine shipments of vaccines worth US\$ 1,130,000 to Palestine on behalf of the Ministry of Health and in support of the national immunization programme during the period. This includes 70,000 doses on inactivated polio vaccine (IPV), 27,500 doses of bivalent oral polio vaccine (bOPV) and 13,500 doses of Tetanus and Diphtheria (Td) Vaccine.

Around 207 metric tonnes of drugs and WASH material were also dispatched into Gaza including 12 water tanks and 15,000 collapsible jerrycans for emergency prepositioning. Delays continue to be experienced during the entry of materials given the long importation processes and restrictions related to Gaza "dual-use" items.

Funding

UNICEF received significant emergency funding from the Belgium Development Agency, Canada, CERF, ECHO, France, Japan, OCHA, Spain, Sweden, Switzerland, the United Kingdom and the Global Thematic Humanitarian. The 2019 UNICEF Humanitarian Appeal funding requirement is for US\$ 21.1 million, and as of June 2019, US\$ 15.1 million or 72% percent of the requirement was available. The reason for the positive funding situation is largely due to funding carried forward from 2018 with a significant

amount of humanitarian funding received in late 2018. Carry forward funding was particularly significant in the WASH, Child Protection and Health and Nutrition programs.

	SoP - UNICEF HRP 2019 Funding Requirements						
Appeal Sector	Requirements	Funds Ava	Funding Gap				
	(USD)	Funds Received Current Year	Carry-Over	USD	%		
WASH	11,278,451	2,566,853	5,029,539	3,682,058	33%		
Education	3,402,803	1,327,496	668,204	1,407,102	41%		
Child Protection	2,857,931	1,251,112	1,060,332	546,487	19%		
Health and Nutrition	2,810,736	1,856,853	944,569	9,314	0%		
Cluster Coordination	707,301	437,107	0	270,194	38%		
Sub-Total	21,057,222	7,439,422	7,702,645	5,915,155	28%		

^{*} Funds available includes funding received against current appeal as well as carry-forward from the previous year

Next SitRep: 20/01/2020

UNICEF State of Palestine: http://www.unicef.org/oPt

UNICEF State of Palestine on Facebook: https://www.facebook.com/unicefstateofpalestine

UNICEF State of Palestine on Twitter: https://twitter.com/UNICEFpalestine

UNICEF Humanitarian Action for Children 2019: https://www.unicef.org/appeals/state_of_palestine.html

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	Overall needs 2019 ⁴	UNICEF Response			Cluster Response		
		2019 Target⁵	Total Results	Change since last report	2019 Target	Total Results	Change since last report ▲ ▼
WATER, SANITATION & HYGIENE							
# of people in humanitarian situation benefited from improved access to water	1,900,635	320,226	321,205 ⁶	290,855	732,165 ⁷	485,352 ⁸	35,923
# of people in humanitarian situation benefited from improved access to sanitation services	1,197,400	14,295	12,360	8,949	116,848	84,225	7,726
# of people with increased access to WASH services in health institutions	NA	284,490	162,000 ⁹	162,000	1,408,769 ¹⁰	340,625	340,625
# of people will benefit from preparedness activities against the risks of floods	NA	360,000	011	0	360,000	13,802	0
# of people received hygiene materials/kits	380,127	19,699	54,981 ¹²	40,847	142,099	77,195	0
CHILD PROTECTION							
# of children, including the injured, who receive interventions including life skills, group and individual counselling and child-parent interaction programs	339,075	13,250 ¹³	7,885 ¹⁴	2,681	35,472	32,018	13,175
# of children, women and men who receive information on their rights and access legal services. 15	70,878	1,400	1,246	167	4,061	1,246	167
# of people (children and caregivers) receive ERW risk education, including children	106,311	15,606	6,667	2,040	43,606	6,667	2,040
# of children who benefited from structured psychosocial activities in Gaza during the summer months to build their physical and mental health ¹⁶	NA	80,000	94,096 ¹⁷	92,482	NA	NA	NA
EDUCATION							
# of children benefited from provision of supplies and materials	496,485	33,300	7,00018	7,000	316,813	69,592	69,592
# of children benefiting from protective presence / accompaniment to school	8,226	6,700	6,447	297	6,900	6,447	297
# of children benefitting from catch up classes	24,789	5,000	4,595	0	24,100	4,595	0
HEALTH and NUTRITION							
# of women and children under the age of five (boys and girls) benefited from medical supplies	398,453	94,295	130,161 ¹⁹	51,461	NA	NA	NA
# of pregnant and lactating women and lactating mothers receiving health service	213,957	20,390	8,628 ²⁰	2,181	NA	NA	NA
# of neonates receiving quality lifesaving services	12,271	10,420	5,793 ²¹	2,187	NA	NA	NA

⁴ The overall need per sector is aligned to the needs reflected in the Humanitarian Response Plan (HRP) 2019 published by UNOCHA

⁵ The relevant targets reflected in HAC were rounded down.

⁶ Reporting under these indicators was made available after completion of construction work and rehabilitation of water networks.

⁷ All WASH Cluster targets have been revised based upon a full review of the WASH planned HRP projects 2019-2020.

⁸ All WASH Cluster results have been revised based upon a full IM review.
9 The coverage of this activity was hindered due funding constraints.

¹⁰ WASH Cluster has recently considered a target for people with increased access to WASH services in health institutions as per HRP projects 2019-2020.

¹¹ Activity has been partially has been funded and the project started recently. Results will be available by the end of the year.

¹² The coverage of this activity has been expanded after additional funding was made available for this activity as part of winter response 2019.

¹³ The target has been revised to include children who will be benefiting from structured child protection.

14 Ongoing new partnerships have been established to reach more children with specialized psychosocial and structured services in 10 functioning Family centres in the Gaza

Strip

15This indicator has been revised because the results are inclusive of children (# of children, women and men who receive information on their rights and access legal services.

16 This indicator has been included in the HAC under Education.
17 The coverage of this activity has been expanded after additional funding was made available as part of funding for summer activities in Gaza.

¹⁸ Reporting under this indicator will be made available end of Q4 with delivery of educational supplies and materials.

¹⁹ The coverage was expanded after additional funding was made available for this activity.

²⁰Reporting under these indicators will be increased by end of current year pending the finalization of health and Postnatal care guidelines.

²¹Reporting under these indicators will be increased by end of current year pending the finalization of health and Postnatal care guidelines.