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## gaza: emergency appeal mid-year achievements 2017

### overview

Lack of economic access to food continued to cause high levels of insecurity in Gaza during the first half of 2017. Under the Emergency Appeal, UNRWA provided food assistance to 890,844 Palestine refugees, while 9,533 people received temporary employment opportunities through the Job Creation Programme, supporting 45,758 dependents.

As of December 2016, more than 1,300 families had completed or were in the process of rebuilding homes destroyed during the 2014 conflict, with support from UNRWA. Due to the scale of damage and destruction, UNRWA continued to allocate resources for Transitional Shelter Cash Assistance (TSCA) and shelter repairs during the first half of 2017. In total, 4,492 families received TSCA and 2,935 received cash grants to support shelter repairs. An estimated US\$ 100 million is still needed to complete the remaining repair caseload and around US\$ 140 million to complete the reconstruction caseload. Priority has been given to reconstruction of totally destroyed shelters and provision of winterization support to vulnerable households.



Training of staff on protection was slower than anticipated during the first half of the year, due to delays in finalization of materials. These have now been completed and UNRWA is confident it will reach its target by the end of the year.

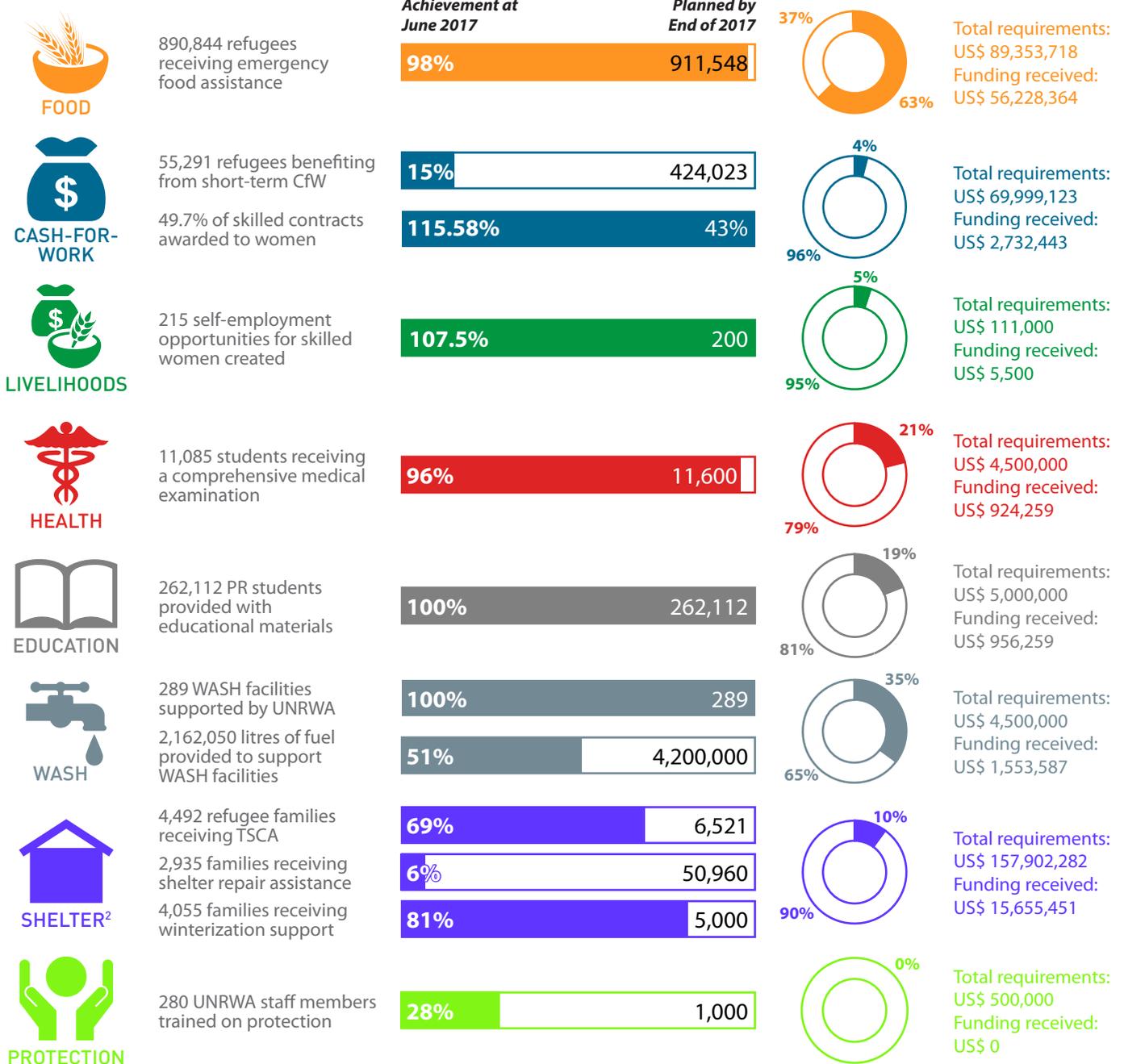
The schooling of over 260,000 Palestine refugee pupils was supported through the provision of educational materials.

Emergency Appeal targets have been set under the assumption that the general context will remain unchanged, in terms of political instability, economic volatility and the continuation of the blockade. However, the deepening electricity crisis in the Gaza Strip presents a major risk to the provision of services and puts the economy and coping mechanisms under further stress. While the impact of the decision by the Palestinian Authority to withhold the payment of electricity fees for Gaza is difficult to assess at this point, it is likely to further accentuate the vulnerability of Palestine refugee families. This in turn could see an increase in demand for UNRWA services, at a time when funding is severely constrained.

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## MID-YEAR ACHIEVEMENTS

Despite challenging circumstances, UNRWA has continued to provide services to vulnerable Palestine refugees in Gaza.<sup>1</sup>



The information provided reflects estimates at the mid-year point and is intended to provide a snapshot of UNRWA emergency programme delivery during the first half of 2017. A full accounting of results and expenditure will be provided through standard UNRWA Emergency Appeal reporting.

<sup>1</sup> Funding levels reflect contributions towards the Agency's 2017 Emergency Appeal.

<sup>2</sup> This includes shelter repair and Transitional Shelter Cash Assistance.



united nations relief and works agency  
for palestine refugees in the near east

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UNRWA is a United Nations agency established by the General Assembly in 1949 and mandated to provide assistance and protection to some 5 million registered Palestine refugees. Its mission is to help Palestine refugees in Jordan, Lebanon, Syria, West Bank and the Gaza Strip achieve their full human development potential, pending a just and lasting solution to their plight. UNRWA services encompass education, health care, relief and social services, camp infrastructure and improvement, protection and microfinance.

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