



Malak Na'el Ashour (9), stands in front of her home in Khan Younis Palestine refugee camp in Gaza. © 2018 UNRWA Photo by Hussein Jaber.

occupied Palestinian territory emergency appeal 2019

Palestine refugees across the occupied Palestinian territory (oPt) continue to face daily challenges as a result of Israeli occupation, repeated violations of human rights and high levels of violence, with individual, familial and community resilience stretched to the limit.

In Gaza, the political and security situation remains volatile with the land, air and sea blockade now in its twelfth year, affecting around 1.9 million people isolated in the 365 square kilometer enclave. The Great March of Return demonstrations, which started on 30 March 2018, have seen a high number of casualties, in particular among young Palestinians. This has put increased pressure on an already overstretched health system, which has been weakened by recurrent shortages of medical supplies and equipment, chronic electricity outages and a salary crisis affecting government employees. With employment opportunities stifled by the blockade – the unemployment rate in Gaza remains among the highest rates worldwide – almost 1 million Palestine refugees are dependent on emergency food assistance, a tenfold increase on the 100,000 who required such support in 2000.

The situation in the West Bank, including East Jerusalem, is increasingly fragile and directly tied to the impact of the Israeli occupation, which entered its 51st year in June 2018. Palestine refugees experience difficult socio-economic conditions rooted in occupation-related policies and practices imposed by the Israeli authorities, such as tight restrictions on access to land and property, house demolitions under a restrictive and discriminatory planning regime and forced displacement. Bedouin and herder communities face particularly severe protection risks and high levels of food insecurity. The lack of progress on the political track, coupled with the continued expansion of Israeli settlements, only add to this burden.

In 2019 UNRWA requires US\$ 138,460,418 to address the priority humanitarian needs of Palestine refugees in Gaza and the West Bank. The Agency's appeal is guided by the following three strategic priorities:

- **Strategic Priority 1: Crisis affected Palestine refugee households facing acute shocks have increased economic access to food**, through food aid, cash-for-work, and e-cards targeting the most vulnerable households.
- **Strategic Priority 2: Palestine refugees maintain their access to critical services and assistance** including education; health; water, sanitation and hygiene (WASH); and **are protected from the most severe impacts of hostilities and violence** through the provision of mental health and psychosocial assistance and monitoring, reporting and advocacy.
- **Strategic Priority 3: Effective management and coordination of the emergency response is ensured** to safeguard the effectiveness, efficiency and neutrality of programme delivery.

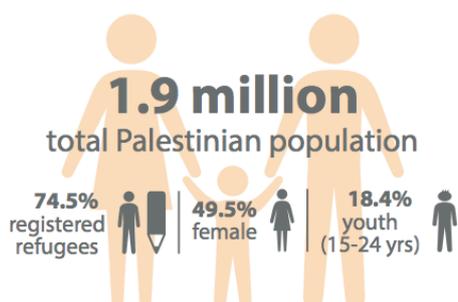
The 2019 oPt Emergency Appeal is available at <https://www.unrwa.org/resources/emergency-appeals/occupied-palestinian-territory-emergency-appeal-2019>



oPt emergency appeal 2019

total funding requirements: US\$ 138,460,418

Gaza



1,009,990 Palestine refugees targeted for emergency food assistance



581,442 refugees live below the absolute-poverty line



54.9% unemployment rate¹

funding requirements
US\$ 127.5 million

West Bank



37,000 individuals from Bedouin and herder communities targeted for emergency food assistance



19% refugee unemployment rate²



186,579 refugees live below the absolute poverty line of US\$ 2.73 per person/day



23,782 abject poor Palestine refugees targeted for emergency cash assistance

funding requirements
US\$ 10.5 million

UNRWA Emergency Interventions in the oPt in 2019

Food Assistance	Emergency food assistance to meet the needs of up to 1,009,990 food insecure refugees in Gaza and 37,000 Bedouin/herders across Area C in the West Bank.
Cash Assistance	23,782 abject poor refugees individuals receiving cash assistance through the e-card modality in the West Bank.
Cash-for-Work	Temporary employment opportunities for 11,082 Palestine refugees in Gaza.
Emergency Health	Provision of lifesaving medicines to 8,056 injured and urgent cases and in-depth medical assessments for 12,011 refugee students in Gaza.
Education in Emergencies	Educational materials for 278,938 students in Gaza.
Emergency Environmental Health	Maintenance of critical WASH facilities in Gaza and removal of 60,000 tons of solid waste.
Psychosocial Support and Mental Health	Life-skills training provided for 24,471 students and 34,300 adults supported with individual counselling in Gaza.
Protection	Provision of targeted assistance to identified protection cases in Gaza and the West Bank, and monitoring, documentation and reporting on alleged international humanitarian and human rights law violations affecting Palestine refugees in the West Bank.
Neutrality	Monitoring of neutrality in UNRWA installations in Gaza and the West Bank.
Emergency preparedness and Safety and Security	Interventions to ensure adequate response capacity and the safety and security of staff and beneficiaries.

¹ PCBS labour force survey Q3 2018.

² PCBS labour force survey Q3 2018.



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

www.unrwa.org

UNRWA is a United Nations agency established by the General Assembly in 1949 and is mandated to provide assistance and protection to a population of some 5.4 million registered Palestine refugees. Its mission is to help Palestine refugees in Jordan, Lebanon, Syria, West Bank and the Gaza Strip to achieve their full potential in human development, pending a just solution to their plight. UNRWA services encompass education, health care, relief and social services, camp infrastructure and improvement, microfinance and emergency assistance. UNRWA is funded almost entirely by voluntary contributions.