



## Long and Healthy Lives

**U**NRWA delivers basic health services and is responsible for providing a healthy living environment for Palestine refugees. The Agency's network of primary health care facilities and mobile clinics provides the foundation of its health services, offering preventative, general medical and specialist care tailored for each stage of life.

Although UNRWA mainly focuses on primary health care, it also helps refugees access secondary and tertiary care services.

For over 60 years, UNRWA has significantly improved the health of Palestine refugees. Diseases preventable by vaccines and other communicable diseases have been almost eradicated and infant, child and maternal mortality rates have declined.

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At UNRWA we believe that everyone should have access to quality health care. UNRWA's health and environmental services focus on delivering preventative as well as curative health care. Good health is a cornerstone for a good quality of life. By keeping individuals healthy UNRWA helps them achieve their full human potential. We believe that to invest in good health services for Palestine refugees is to invest in peace. **Peace starts here.**

# Peace starts with . . .

## Long and Healthy Lives

### UNRWA's Health Department

- Ensures universal access to quality comprehensive services;
- Prevents and controls disease;
- Protects and promotes family health.

#### At a glance

- 137 primary health care facilities
- 4,650 health staff
- Three million refugees make use of UNRWA's health facilities
- 11 million medical consultations in 2009 as of December 2009

### The Life-Cycle Approach

Helps refugees at every stage of their lives.

#### Perinatal care

- Optimises women's health before pregnancy;
- Provides family planning advice;

#### Safe motherhood:

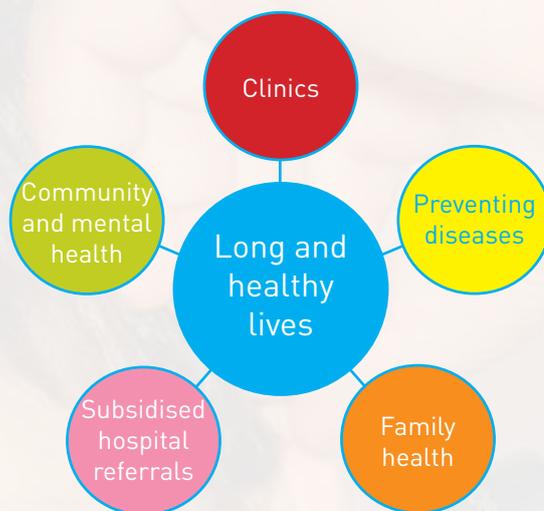
- Antenatal care from the first trimester;
- Antenatal care for over 80 per cent of the pregnancies among the refugee population;
- Early diagnosis of complications and risk factors;
- Tetanus and rubella immunisation, and screening for gestational diabetes and hypertension;
- Subsidised delivery in hospital;
- Follow-ups for mothers and newborns after childbirth.

#### Infant and child health

- Health education and counselling for mothers on appropriate feeding and baby care;
- Medical examination, growth monitoring, immunisation and screening for disabilities for the under threes;
- UNRWA students receive a thorough medical examination when they enrol.

#### Adolescent and adult health

- General medical care;
- Specialist preventative and curative services, including cancer screening, mental health programmes, oral health services and physiotherapy;
- Free diagnostic services;
- Free prescribed medicine;
- Radiology units and laboratories.



#### Active ageing

- Targeted services for older refugees including screening, treatment and follow-up for diabetes, hypertension and associated complications.

#### A safe and healthy environment

- Working for a healthy and safe environment;
- Controls the quality of drinking water, sanitation, vector and rodent control in refugee camps.

#### Challenges

The Agency faces enormous challenges in delivering its health services, including:

#### Access to health services

- Violent conflict, restrictions on movement and refugees' entitlements under the different host governments restrict access to health services;
- 137 health centres across all fields significantly reduce the physical and economic barriers to health care;
- Five mobile health teams operate in the West Bank in those areas affected by closures, checkpoints and the Barrier;
- The teams offer a full range of essential medical services to around 13,000 patients per month, in over 150 isolated locations.

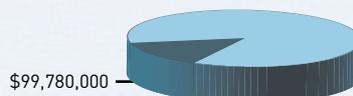
#### Protecting victims of violence

- UNRWA is continuously challenged by upsurges of violence, such as in Lebanon and more recently in the Gaza Strip;
- Established services such as mental-health care, physiotherapy and rehabilitation to deal with the consequences of protracted violence and insecurity.

## 2010 Regular Budget

Long and healthy lives: **US\$ 99,780,000**

Total core activities: **US\$ 601,916,000\***



UNRWA relies on donations. The Agency currently faces an unprecedented shortfall in funds needed to provide its essential services.

\*Including support services, contingency requirements, area staff separation benefits, salary increase reserve, maintenance reserves. Excludes projects.

UNRWA provides assistance, protection and advocacy for some 4.7 million registered Palestine refugees in Jordan, Lebanon, Syria and the occupied Palestinian territory, pending a solution to their plight. The Agency's services encompass education, health care, social safety-net, camp infrastructure and improvement, community support, microfinance and emergency response, including in times of armed conflict.

Through these services UNRWA strives to help Palestine refugees achieve a decent standard of living, long and healthy lives, knowledge and skills and full enjoyment of human rights. These goals are formulated according to the UN criteria for human development.