

UNICEF HUMANITARIAN ACTION OCCUPIED PALESTINIAN TERRITORY SUMMARY FOR 2005

Critical Issues for Children and Women

The situation in the West Bank and Gaza continues to be characterized by ongoing violence, restriction on movements and serious economic decline. According to the World Bank, more than 60% of the households are now living on less than 2 dollars a day. Restriction on mobility hinders access for women, children and caregivers to health services and schools.

Many children are exposed to live fire. 75% of the Palestinian adults interviewed thought that children were experiencing greater emotional problems and changes in behaviour compared to the previous years. Primary health care services, water and sanitation facilities, and schools have been disrupted. There are signs of increased levels of water borne diseases, diarrhoeal diseases, malnutrition, anaemia, micronutrient deficiencies and collapse of adequate hygiene practises.

Planned Humanitarian Action for 2005

UNICEF collaborates with UN agencies, NGOs, and the Palestinian Authority and UNICEF's humanitarian programme is part of the CAP for 2005. UNICEF was responsible to consolidate inputs for the education and the psychosocial sectors, and together with WHO, worked in coordinating the health sector response. UNICEF will sustain its field presence through 6 zonal offices, and ensure proper monitoring and delivery of humanitarian assistance. UNICEF aims at reaching around 500,000 women and children.

Health and Nutrition: UNICEF will focus on emergency preparedness and response, including measles vaccination with vitamin A supplementation, polio, medical and obstetric kits, supplementary feeding, safe water and hygiene promotion. Orientation of health staff on case management will also be conducted.

Psychosocial interventions: UNICEF will support rapid response psychosocial teams and provide additional supplies and recreational materials. Peer to peer support groups will be formed, additional play areas will be set up and group games and activities will be organized aiming at restoring a sense of normalcy in children's and adolescent's lives.

Education: UNICEF will provide school-in-a-box, and additional school supplies and equipment to teachers and students. Recreational, teaching and training kits will also be delivered. Teachers and caregivers will be trained on remedial education and psychosocial counselling.

Summary of UNICEF Financial Needs for 2005	
Sector	US\$
Health and Nutrition and WES	5,533,000
Psychosocial Interventions	2,671,564
Education	4,516,320
Total¹	12,720,884

¹ The total includes a maximum recovery rate of 12%. The actual recovery rate on individual contributions will be calculated in accordance with the Executive Board Decision 2003/9 of 5 June 2003.