Highlights

17 June, 2016

1,000,000
# of children affected out of
3,200,000
# of people affected
(UNICEF Humanitarian Action for Children 2016)

250,000
# of children targeted out of
450,000
# of people targeted
(UNICEF Humanitarian Action for Children 2016)

UNICEF Appeal 2016*  
US$ 41.9 million

2016 funds available

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

- A total of 22 Palestinian children were killed in the first quarter of 2016, and 25 in the last quarter of 2015 (30 children were killed in 2015). A total of 26 people, including nine children, were displaced due to the demolition of Palestinians houses in East Jerusalem by the Israeli authorities.

- In May, 1,880 children benefitted from child protection services including life skills support, case management and child-parent interaction programs. 2,951 caregivers attended awareness raising sessions on protection of children and positive discipline.

- In Gaza and the West Bank, 14,341 pregnant and lactating women received micronutrient supplementation, while 2,598 under five children (50% girls) benefitted from the distribution of iron drops.

- 6,760 students (57% boys, 43% girls) from 113 schools (grade five and six) coming from the most vulnerable communities in Gaza completed remedial class programmes to better prepare for June national final exams.

- In Gaza, UNICEF completed approximately 85% of the works for the rehabilitation and upgrading of water lines and networks. In the West Bank, UNICEF completed 95% of the works for the rehabilitation and extension of the existing water networks (Northern Jordan Valley), and 60% of the works in communities from Tubas, Jericho, and Bethlehem.

- UNICEF has nearly completed the construction of a EUR 10 million seawater desalination plant in Gaza, to cover over 75,000 Palestinians with safe drinking water.

- The controls and restrictions on importation of supplies remain one of the key challenges.
Situation Overview & Humanitarian Needs

On 22 May, the Israeli authorities announced the lifting of the ban on the import of cement to the Gaza Strip for the private sector. By the end of April 2016, 4,064 homes (about 23 per cent) have been reconstructed or repaired with UN and other international support. Approximately 18,000 homes were destroyed or severely damaged in 2014. The Egyptian-controlled Rafah Crossing continued to be closed during the reporting period, except on 11 and 12 May. At least 30,000 people, including around 9,500 medical cases, and 2,700 students, are registered and waiting to cross, according to the Palestinian authorities.

In East Jerusalem (EJ), the Israeli authorities demolished three Palestinians homes and one praying room, for the stated reason that that they did not have Israeli building permits, displacing 26 Palestinians, including nine children. Since the beginning of 2016, a total of 72 structures were demolished in EJ, including three on “punitive grounds”. In the West Bank, the number of Palestinian structures that have been demolished or confiscated by Israeli Security Forces in 2016 has increased in trend compared to 2015. To date, at least 900 Palestinians have been displaced. The demolition and removal of water wells, solar panels and animal shelters has impacted the livelihoods of over 2,500 Palestinians.

Humanitarian leadership and coordination

UNICEF, as part of the UN Country Team, coordinates with the Palestinian Government to support its role in humanitarian response, early recovery and reconstruction. UNICEF leads the WASH cluster in close collaboration with the Palestinian Water Authority and co-leads the Education Cluster with Save the Children in Gaza. At the national level, Education Cluster has transitioned to sector working group, Co-Chaired by the Ministry of Education and Higher Education (MOEHE) and UNICEF, responsible for coordinating emergency response. UNICEF also leads the Child Protection Working Group and affiliated groups on Mental Health and Psychosocial Services (MHPSS), and on Monitoring and Reporting of Grave Violations against children (Children and Armed Conflict reporting mechanism). UNICEF co-leads the Nutrition Working Group under the Health Cluster, in close collaboration with the Ministry of Health and WFP, in Gaza and at the national level. UNICEF is leading Cluster transitioning in WASH and Education in the West Bank, through capacity building towards increased Government ownership and more effective coordination.

Humanitarian Strategy

UNICEF promotes 'resilient-focused development', providing children and families with what they need to be better prepared for and better manage crises, and recover from them more rapidly. It requires addressing the underlying drivers of inequity and fragility that cause grave violations, social deprivation and stresses. It also means bridging the arbitrary divide between development and humanitarian assistance, integrating risk factors into programming, and strengthening systems that can anticipate as well as absorb shocks in the event of conflict, violence or disasters.

In Palestine, UNICEF ensures complementarity with national efforts in the most vulnerable communities, especially in Gaza, Area C of the West Bank and East Jerusalem. UNICEF provides technical expertise and support in strengthening child protection systems and services, including case management and referrals. Monitoring and reporting on grave violations against children informs evidence-based advocacy for improved protection of children, as well as programming. Children crossing checkpoints in the West Bank are protected to ensure safer access to schools. Children affected by conflict benefit from education supplies and remedial learning. Adolescents engage in learning and recreational programmes, to become agents of positive change in communities. UNICEF also supports the rehabilitation of water and sewage systems in affected communities in Gaza and the West Bank. In addition, UNICEF supports the provision of essential and life-saving paediatric medicines and medical consumables; micronutrient supplementation and infant and young child feeding for children and women in Gaza.
Summary Analysis of Programme response

Education and Adolescents

In partnership with the international NGOs Ecumenical Accompaniment Programme in Palestine (EAPPI) and Christian Peacemaker Teams (CPT), UNICEF continued to provide protective presence to 4,334 children and 333 teachers on their way to and from school in the West Bank.

In cooperation with the Ministry of Education and Higher Education (MoEHE), UNICEF supported remedial classes in Arabic language and Mathematics in Gaza, benefitting 6,760 students (57% boys and 43% girls) from 113 schools (grade five and six). UNICEF and the MoEHE prioritized children experiencing learning difficulties and low achievements at school.

Within the Adolescent Development and Participation programme (ADAP), 5,120 adolescents (33% girls) led non-violence campaign activities to raise awareness on prevention and elimination of violence, including bullying, domestic violence, and early child marriage. Anti-violence campaigns took place in Gaza and the West Bank, and included community discussions between adolescents and adults, including sports event.

Child Protection

During the reporting period, the 28 Family Centres, supported by UNICEF, Ma'an and Tamer, reached 377 children with psychosocial support, including both group and individual counseling in Gaza. Since January 2016, the programme reached 31,755 children (49% girls). Additionally, 1,880 children received child protection services, such as life skills, case management and child/parent interaction programs. From January to May, 6,094 children (49% boys) benefited including 1,030 vulnerable children who received case management services. UNICEF supported the organization of awareness raising sessions in partnership with the Family Centres. As a result, 2,951 caregivers (52% male and 48% female) gained knowledge on protection of children and positive discipline.

Six UNRWA supported refugee camps, most affected by clashes and violence with the Israeli Defense Forces (IDF), were identified and involved in a “Know your Rights” programme. The objective of this initiative is to raise awareness among children about their rights, and support them to build coping strategies and resilience against violence. In May, 476 children (363 boys, 113 girls) from Qalandia, Jenin, Jalazon, and Al Arroub refugee camps attended the sessions. Children shared their concerns and experience about the lack of security and safety, repeated episodes of violence, and arrests of young boys.

Boys from Al Arroub School attend the “Know your Rights” sessions organized with UNRWA. Photo: UNRWA.

Following the earlier completion of the Child Protection mapping in seven governorates across Gaza and the West Bank, UNICEF facilitated a two-day planning workshop in Gaza. The technical working group, composed of national child protection experts, both from government and civil society, met and developed a draft action plan to strengthen the
social welfare sector to respond to the needs of vulnerable children and families. This will be harmonized with a similar action planning workshop in the West Bank.

In partnership with the Norwegian Refugee Council (NRC), UNICEF supported a series of trainings towards the roll out of the ‘Inter-agency Standard Operating Procedures for Child Protection and Gender Based Violence’ case management in Gaza. So far, three Training of Trainers were organized targeting 61 school counselors and their supervisors working in schools in vulnerable areas. At least 125 social workers working with the Ministry of Social Affairs also gained new knowledge.

Data provided by the Working Group on Grave Violations (WGGV) against children documented 516 incidents affecting at least 1,700 children since the beginning of the year.

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Water, Sanitation and Hygiene

In Gaza, UNICEF and the Coastal Municipality Water Utility (CMWU) continued the works to upgrade the Jumaizat AlSabeel sewage pumping station. Due to the temporary suspension of import of the cement, the remaining works will be finalized in January 2017. The pumping station will treat the wastewater for around 10,700 people.

Reconstruction work continued in three wells in Khan Younis, Maghazi and Dier AlBalalah which had been destroyed during the last war in Gaza. In coordination with CMWU, UNICEF supported the installation of the well pumps in Maghazi and Dier AlBalalah. The remaining electromechanical works including the activation of generators and connection to the networks in all three locations will be completed by early September 2016.

In Nussirat and Rafah, UNICEF and CMWU completed approximately 85% of the works for the rehabilitation and upgrading of the water lines and water networks. In May, CMWU installed additional 1,190 meter pipes. In light of the temporary ban to import cement in Gaza, works will be completed towards the end of July. Ê UNICEF coordinated with its partners and national counterparts to identify measures limiting the impact of the ban on the overall WASH planning2.

In the Gaza Strip, UNICEF has nearly completed the construction of a EUR 10 million seawater desalination plant, which will provide over 75,000 Palestinians with safe drinking water in Rafah and Khan Younis. Since March 2014, UNICEF and its partners, the Palestinian Water Authority and the Coastal Municipalities Water Utilities, have completed the construction of a 2,000m³ storage tank for desalinated water, several administrative and operational buildings, power transmission and electrical systems, water distribution and seawater desalination systems based on the reverse osmosis process. The testing is expected to start in June.

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1 The April Situation Report informed works would be completed by end of June. Given the limited progress made in May, the total number of beneficiaries remains unvaried (581 households as per previous Situation Report).

2 For example, the rehabilitation works of the wastewater networks in Khan Younis and Rafah were temporarily suspended and will be reactivated in June. Since the start of 2016, almost 80% of the works have been completed, including 13,007 meters of UPVC pipes; to date, 721 households have access to improved sanitation services and systems (source: UNICEF State of Palestine, Situation Report, April 2016).

3 With funding from the European Union.
In the West Bank, including the North Jordan Valley, UNICEF continued the rehabilitation and extension of the existing water networks. In partnership with the international NGO, Action Contre le Faim (ACF), 95% of the works have been completed. This intervention will provide 2,854 people with increased access to safe water.

UNICEF and the international NGO Gruppo Volontariato Civile (GVC) completed approximately 60% of the rehabilitation and construction works of the water networks in selected communities from Tubas, Jericho, and Bethlehem. This project will benefit 4,200 people living in the communities surrounding the water pipes.

**Child Health & Nutrition**

UNICEF continued to provide essential, life-saving supplies to the public health facilities in Gaza and the West Bank. In Gaza, UNICEF supplied 351,440 bottles of normal saline infusion which will serve up to 150,000 women and children under five to the Ministry of Health (MoH). In the West Bank, the Ministry of Health used UNICEF-procured supplies to provide medical treatment to 26,193 of women, including under five children (70% of beneficiaries). In May, 14,341 pregnant and lactating women received micronutrient supplementation at the primary and secondary healthcare level. 2,598 under five children (50% girls) were administered iron drops to prevent anemia.

Within the national breastfeeding promotion programme, 5,516 women in Gaza and the West Bank gained knowledge about breastfeeding and infant young child feeding practices. Paramedical staff working in primary and secondary health facilities conducted counselling sessions. In partnership with the national NGOs Near East Council of Churches (NECC) and Union of Health Workers Committee (UHWC), UNICEF supported postnatal home visits. As a result, skilled midwives provided 688 women with counselling on mother’s health.

In collaboration with the Ard El Insan Child Nutrition Centre and NECC, UNICEF provided therapeutic feeding to 429 malnourished children in Gaza. UNICEF distributed additional 168,000 sachets of Ready-to-Use Therapeutic Food (RUTF) and 63,900 Plumpy Sup sachets to the Ard El Insan Centre to prevent and reduce the risk of severe acute malnutrition. These supplies will ensure the effective management of 3,200 malnourished children featuring different levels of malnutrition for the next six months.

To strengthen the quality and access of neonatal care, UNICEF supplied the Salfeet and Yatta public hospitals in Gaza with essential medical equipment, including but not limited to: incubators, phototherapy units and transport incubators. The neonatal care units of both hospitals assist an average of 20 new-borns per month.

**Communications for Development (C4D)**

A cross-sectoral country-level Communication for Development (C4D) Strategy was finalized in May 2016, with a focus on two priorities: violence against children and Early Childhood Development. In the WASH sector, under the Seawater desalination plant project in Gaza, a specific C4D strategy with defined activities and budget were finalized with the CMWU, who will implement it with UNICEF guidance. The strategy aims at increasing safe handling and water conservation practices, and at raising awareness in relation to quality supply of safe drinking water.

**Supply and Logistics**

UNICEF SoP completed a supply contingency plan, as part of emergency preparedness. A new warehouse facility with larger storage capacity was secured in Gaza for emergency prepositioned supplies. All Gaza emergency supplies previously kept in Ashdod have been transferred to Gaza. In addition, the validity of the existing long term arrangements for the
transportation and delivery of supplies in Gaza has been extended for additional 24 months. A market survey exercise for the expansion of the vendor base and evaluation of existing vendors was concluded. The controls and restrictions on importation of supplies remain one of the key challenges in the supply chain delivery. Supplies perceived to be susceptible for dual use take longer time to secure approvals from the relevant authorities. To date, six water tankering trucks ordered in November 2015 for humanitarian assistance in Gaza are yet to be approved.

**Media and External Communication**

The impact of the conflict on children continued to be the main focus of advocacy in May. Two Bulletins on Children and Armed Conflict (CAAC) covering grave violations against Palestinian and Israeli children in the second semester of 2015 were released. Local and foreign media wrote about the increasing number of arrest and military detention of Palestinian children, and noted the high number of Palestinian child casualties in the West Bank, including East Jerusalem, at the end of 2015. UNICEF briefed Government Officials, EU member states and diplomats on child protection issues, including grave violations against children and restrictions on access to education.

**Security**

During May 2016, the situation continued to be tense across the State of Palestine, with several demonstrations and clashes, particularly in the West Bank and East Jerusalem. The majority of the clashes occurred during demonstrations commemorating the 68th anniversary of the 1948 “Nakba”. A 17-year-old Palestinian girl was shot dead by the Israeli Border Police in Jerusalem. Since the beginning of 2016, 52 Palestinian were killed by Israeli forces, compared to 89 in the last quarter of 2015. At least 49 Palestinians, including four children and one woman, were injured by Israeli forces. A total of 22 Palestinian children were killed in the first quarter of 2016, and 25 in the last quarter of 2015 (30 children in total were killed in 2015). In the Israeli-controlled H2 area of Hebron city, a group of Israeli settlers entered a Palestinian house and physically assaulted and injured a 16-year-old Palestinian boy and his father. The situation in Gaza also remained volatile.

**Funding**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Appeal Sector</th>
<th>SoP - UNICEF HAC 2016 Funding Requirements</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Requirements (USD)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>WASH</td>
<td>16,994,402</td>
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<tr>
<td>Education</td>
<td>9,763,664</td>
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<tr>
<td>Child Protection</td>
<td>3,569,000</td>
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<tr>
<td>Health and Nutrition</td>
<td>9,317,700</td>
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<tr>
<td>Cluster Coordination</td>
<td>2,280,105</td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>Sub-Total</strong></td>
<td><strong>41,924,871</strong></td>
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</tbody>
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* Funds available includes funding received for the current appeal year as well as the carry-forward from the previous year. Total carry-forward amount: USD 12,149,704.

**Next SitRep: 14/7/2016**

UNICEF State of Palestine: [http://www.unicef.org/oPt](http://www.unicef.org/oPt)
UNICEF State of Palestine on Facebook: [https://www.facebook.com/unicefstateofpalestine](https://www.facebook.com/unicefstateofpalestine)
UNICEF State of Palestine on Twitter: [https://twitter.com/UNICEFpalestine](https://twitter.com/UNICEFpalestine)

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## ANNEX A - SUMMARY OF PROGRAMME RESULTS

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Cluster Response</th>
<th>UNICEF and IPs</th>
</tr>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Overall needs</td>
<td>2016</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>WATER, SANITATION &amp; HYGIENE</td>
<td>1,700,000</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td># of people in humanitarian situation benefited from improved access to water</td>
<td>732,000</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td># of people in humanitarian situation benefited from improved access to sanitation services</td>
<td>600,000</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td># of beneficiaries provided with sanitation /hygiene items (hygiene kits / vouchers)</td>
<td>200,000</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td># of people in water-scarce areas in the West Bank benefited from access to safe drinking water</td>
<td>307,340</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>EDUCATION</td>
<td>600,000</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td># of children benefited from provision of supplies and materials</td>
<td>400,118</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td># of children and teachers benefiting from protective presence / accompaniment to school</td>
<td>5,692</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td># of adolescents participating in life-skills building and community based activities</td>
<td>230,254</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td># of children benefited from remedial education</td>
<td>70,000</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>HEALTH and NUTRITION</td>
<td>1,400,000</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td># of children and women benefiting from emergency health care services / supplies</td>
<td>1,400,000</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td># of children and women who have received micronutrient supplements</td>
<td>250,000</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td># of children provided with life-saving neonate care services</td>
<td>55,000</td>
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<tr>
<td>CHILD PROTECTION</td>
<td>1,800,000</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td># of children / adolescents benefited from psychosocial support services.</td>
<td>282,000</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td># of children / caregivers receiving protection services through community based family centers and Govt led CPN</td>
<td>210,000</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td># of incidents of grave violations against children monitored and documented</td>
<td>2,500</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td># of children / caregivers reached through ERW/UXO risk education messages</td>
<td>550,000</td>
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