

**RESIDENT/HUMANITARIAN COORDINATOR
REPORT ON THE USE OF CERF FUNDS
OCCUPIED PALESTINIAN TERRITORY
RAPID RESPONSE
DISRUPTION OF BASIC SERVICES
2018**

RESIDENT/HUMANITARIAN COORDINATOR

Jamie McGoldrick

REPORTING PROCESS AND CONSULTATION SUMMARY

- a. Please indicate when the After Action Review (AAR) was conducted and who participated.

The AAR was conducted by the recipient agency within itself. Reflections were shared with OCHA, on behalf of the Humanitarian Coordinator, in preparation for this report.

- b. Please confirm that the Resident Coordinator and/or Humanitarian Coordinator (RC/HC) Report on the use of CERF funds was discussed in the Humanitarian and/or UN Country Team.

YES NO

[The draft report was not shared with the Humanitarian Country Team (HCT) given the exceptional nature of this CERF grant. Since the US decision to suspend most of its funding to UNRWA, the Agency has been in regular contact with the humanitarian community led by the Humanitarian Coordinator, including UNOCHA oPt, the Humanitarian Country Team, and the Inter-Cluster Coordination Group in order to explain the impact and identify where other actors could provide support – however possible – to avoid programmatic interruptions. The Humanitarian Coordinator continues to support UNRWA advocacy, leading the HCT in parallel supportive measures to avoid interruptions to UNRWA support. The HCT and humanitarian partners operating in the oPt have proactively engaged and supported UNRWA throughout the period of this grant. In parallel, high level discussions have been conducted involving UNRWA's Commissioner General, the Emergency Relief Coordinator and other UN principals to highlight the criticality of the situation and the continued need for UNRWA humanitarian assistance in oPt.]

- c. Was the final version of the RC/HC Report shared for review with in-country stakeholders (i.e. the CERF recipient agencies and their implementing partners, cluster/sector coordinators and members and relevant government counterparts)?

YES NO

The draft report was shared with the CERF recipient agency.

PART I

Strategic Statement by the Resident/Humanitarian Coordinator

Through this CERF allocation, UNRWA was able to mitigate the food insecurity of over 600,000 abject poor Palestine Refugees, and averted potential escalations in panic and violence associated with the suspension of services by UNRWA. Mobilizing resources quickly to enable the food security responses was critical in maintaining life-saving food security, therefore avoiding sliding into a situation that would require far greater financial resources to manage. It was also crucial in preventing an abrupt significant scaling down and/or discontinuation of UNRWA responses to the refugee population. Given that refugees comprise some 70 per cent of the population in Gaza and 33 per cent in the West Bank, disruptions to UNRWA services – particularly the life-saving provision of food assistance – would not only negatively impact the well-being of refugees, it could lead to a further destabilization of an already fragile context¹. The release of the CERF funding reflected the seriousness of the humanitarian situation in the Gaza Strip and the need for humanitarian action to continue, regardless of political considerations.

1. OVERVIEW

18-RR-PSE-28903 TABLE 1: EMERGENCY ALLOCATION OVERVIEW (US\$)	
a. TOTAL AMOUNT REQUIRED FOR THE HUMANITARIAN RESPONSE	187,881,745
FUNDING RECEIVED BY SOURCE	
CERF	15,005,129
COUNTRY-BASED POOLED FUND <i>(if applicable)</i>	
OTHER (bilateral/multilateral)	66,793,172
b. TOTAL FUNDING RECEIVED FOR THE HUMANITARIAN RESPONSE	US\$ 81,798,301

18-RR-PSE-28903 TABLE 2: CERF EMERGENCY FUNDING BY PROJECT AND SECTOR (US\$)			
Allocation 1 – date of official submission: 01/03/2018			
Agency	Project code	Cluster/Sector	Amount
UNRWA	18-RR-RWA-001	Food Security - Food Aid	15,005,129
TOTAL			15,005,129

¹ A glimpse at the potential impact of interruptions to UNRWA food operations has already been seen. In the West Bank, at the start of January, the Agency was unable to honour 2,100 three-month cash-for-work contracts for refugees in camps and food voucher payments to 46,000 food insecure refugees outside camps were suspended in the middle of the month. This provoked an outcry from beneficiaries as they abruptly became unable to access urgent assistance. In an atmosphere already rife with tensions and threats, key UNRWA offices were closed repeatedly in the second half of January, and there were demonstrations in and around refugee camps, as needy refugees struggled to meet basic needs, including for food, health care and winter heating costs.

18-RR-PSE-28903 TABLE 3: BREAKDOWN OF CERF FUNDS BY TYPE OF IMPLEMENTATION MODALITY (US\$)	
Total funds implemented directly by UN agencies including procurement of relief goods	15,005,129
- Funds transferred to Government partners*	
- Funds transferred to International NGOs partners*	
- Funds transferred to National NGOs partners*	
- Funds transferred to Red Cross/Red Crescent partners*	
Total funds transferred to implementing partners (IP)*	
TOTAL	15,005,129

* These figures should match with totals in Annex 1.

2. HUMANITARIAN CONTEXT AND NEEDS

Humanitarian Context: The protracted humanitarian crisis in the oPt is a direct result of Israel's ongoing occupation, which has become increasingly fragile over the past 11 years in the context of Hamas's control over the Gaza Strip, the enforcement of the blockade by Israel, recurrent hostilities and escalations in violence, as well as negative developments related to the internal Palestinian divide. This has resulted in needs for life-saving humanitarian responses mainly in the areas of food security, water and sanitation, health and protection. The situation is more acute in Gaza given the recurrent hostilities and the longstanding restrictions on the movement and access of people and goods which along with the severe aggravation of the electricity crisis since June 2017, have exacerbated pre-existing vulnerabilities and led to unprecedented levels of unemployment, poverty and hence food insecurity, and taken a toll on the availability and quality of basic essential services.

Cause of the crisis: UNRWA was prompted to request CERF RR funds (CERF RR) in the context of the US government's series of unilateral political and financial decisions which involved an unforeseen massive deduction in financial support to UNRWA. UNRWA is the single largest humanitarian partner in the oPt. Its life-saving activities amount to US\$ 286 million: 53 per cent of the total requirements in the 2018 HRP and 65 per cent of the 2018 HRP food security sector requirements. The US government was customarily the largest single donor of UNRWA. In the midst of rising numbers of the food insecure in Gaza and ongoing needs in the West Bank, particularly in the area of food security, UNRWA's responses were dramatically curtailed, and given UNRWA's unique mandate², the scaling back and recalibration of UNRWAs operations were being met with increased protests and unrest amongst the Palestinian population, which carried a real risk of threatening the stability in the oPt.

Affected population: Some 1.6 out of 2.5 million Palestinians in need across the oPt are estimated to be food insecure. Approximately 50 per cent of the Gaza population suffers from more than one micronutrient deficiency, with 72 and 64 per cent of female adolescents suffering from deficiencies in Vitamins D and A respectively.³ According to the Health Cluster, approximately 140,000 children under five in Gaza are suffering from chronic malnutrition and stunting.⁴ Furthermore, the deteriorated economic and food security situation has manifested itself in increasing number of medical consultations at UNRWA health centers since mid-2017 and serious repercussions on the psychosocial well-being of Palestine refugees in Gaza.

Based on statistics showing that Palestine Refugees are disproportionately vulnerable to poverty, unemployment⁵, and hence, food insecurity UNRWAs activities, which form 65% of the total 2018 food sector response requirements, target registered Palestine Refugees. In Gaza, the number of Palestine refugees requiring food assistance has been continuously increasing, from over 866,000 in 2014 to over 1.09 million in Q3 2017. As of end-2017, in Gaza, 41 per cent of Palestine refugees were considered moderately to severely food insecure, as compared to around 36 per cent of non-refugee households.

² United Nations General Assembly Resolution 302 (IV) of 8 December 1949.

³ Ministry of Health, Palestinian Micronutrient Survey, 2014.

⁴ Health Cluster, quarterly monitoring, as of November 2017.

⁵ In Q3 2017, unemployment levels stood at 47 per cent, compared to 45 per cent amongst non-refugees in Gaza. Linked to this are increasing poverty levels, with some 76.6 per cent of refugees in Gaza assessed as poor in 2017 (compared to 61.2 per cent in 2015). The number of abject poor has also increased in recent months, rising from 53 per cent in 2017 to 57 per cent in 2018.

In the West Bank unemployment rates in the third quarter of 2017 amongst refugees stood at 22.7 percent compared to 19.2 percent amongst non-refugees. Women, in particular female-headed households, are extremely vulnerable, as they face limited access to the labour market due to a combination of limited opportunities and cultural norms inhibiting women's participation to the labour market. In the West Bank, including East Jerusalem these challenges are particularly acute for the nearly 250,000 Palestine Refugees residing in one of the 19 refugee camps.

Humanitarian Consequences and need for CERF funding: Mobilizing resources quickly to enable the food security and cash for work (CfW) responses was critical in maintaining life-saving food security for 636,824 Palestine Refugees, hence avoiding sliding into a situation that would require far greater financial resources to manage. It was also crucial in preventing an abrupt significant scaling down and/or discontinuation of its key responses to the Palestine Refugee population comprising some 70 per cent of the population in Gaza and 33 per cent in the West Bank, and which carried the threat of adopting negative coping mechanisms and leading to widespread panic and violence amongst the population, further destabilizing the oPt⁶. The release of the CERF RR funding reflected the seriousness of the humanitarian situation in the Gaza Strip and need for the international community and its donors to support the ongoing fundraising campaign for the response.

3. PRIORITIZATION PROCESS

The overall objective of this CERF allocation was to provide life-saving food security assistance to 560,430 vulnerable Palestine Refugees in Gaza and 58,600 in the West Bank, with women representing 50 per cent of targeted beneficiaries in both locations. which was identified as a priority area in alignment with 2018 HRP that could not be met due to the unanticipated shortfall in pledged funding in January 2018. This CERF rapid response submission comes with the endorsement of the HC, in order to address urgent humanitarian needs and promote early action, preventing an increased suffering to an already vulnerable population and avoiding an escalation in tensions that may even turn into violent conflict.

In Gaza, UNRWA provides quarterly food parcels to some 925,000 food insecure refugees, including 460,440 women and 19,566 female-headed households, who would otherwise be unable to meet their basic food needs. Of this overall number of food insecure refugees to whom UNRWA aims at delivering life-saving assistance in Gaza, 560,430 were targeted through this CERF request. In the West Bank, UNRWA provides food security interventions to 94,000 Palestine refugees, including through food vouchers, CfW and in-kind food distributions (in partnership with WFP). Shortfalls in pledged funding in January 2018 caused interruptions in these programmes in January, however, UNRWA was able to resume in late January 2018 by reprogramming funding from other activities. However, funding was not available to continue either intervention beyond February. Six-months of funding for UNRWA's portion (logistics) of the in-kind food intervention was secured from the oPt Country-Based Pooled Fund ("oPt Humanitarian Fund") in February 2018. The remaining activities – food voucher and cash-for-work – were targeted through this CERF request, covering 58,600 refugees inside and outside camps. This include 46,000 recipients of food vouchers, including 13,800 children under 18, and 12,600 CfW beneficiaries and their families, including 3,780 under 18. A further 36,000 refugees in subsequent quarters of the year will also be affected (i.e. 6,000 CfW beneficiaries and their families).

All activities were designed to target food insecure refugees in the oPt. The range of modalities (food distribution, CfW, vouchers) reflects differentiated operating conditions and the impact of donor policies in the West Bank and Gaza Strip. These manifest themselves most clearly in relation to restrictions on the use of cash in Gaza, which have prevented UNRWA from moving away from direct food delivery there. In the West Bank, UNRWA uses CfW programming inside camps and food vouchers outside camps, to meet the food security needs of vulnerable refugees.

The overall CERF strategy was developed through recognition of the critical and direct impact that food security activities have on the beneficiary. In the face of deteriorating poverty, unemployment and food security the targeted beneficiaries have no other

⁶ A glimpse at the potential impact of interruptions to UNRWA food operations has already been seen. In the West Bank, at the start of January, the Agency was unable to honour 2,100 three-month cash-for-work contracts for refugees in camps and food voucher payments to 46,000 food insecure refugees outside camps were suspended in the middle of the month. This provoked an outcry from beneficiaries as they abruptly became unable to access urgent assistance. In an atmosphere already rife with tensions and threats, key UNRWA offices were closed repeatedly in the second half of January, and there were demonstrations in and around refugee camps, as needy refugees struggled to meet basic needs, including for food, health care and winter heating costs.

means of survival other than the humanitarian assistance provided by UNRWA. These activities have also been prioritized for the overarching impact that they have on stabilizing the context. Finally, these activities have been prioritized for their contribution towards advancing gender equality and youth empowerment.

Since the US decision to suspend funding for UNRWA's emergency operations the agency has been in regular contact with the humanitarian community led by the Humanitarian Coordinator, including UNOCHA oPt, the Humanitarian Country Team, and the Inter-Cluster Coordination Group in order to understand the potential impact and help provide support – however possible – to avoid programmatic interruptions. On 5 February 2018, the acting Humanitarian Coordinator for the oPt wrote a letter to the Emergency Relief Coordinator to express concern about the dramatic reduction in funding to UNRWA, as the only provider of large-scale critical humanitarian services for vulnerable Palestine refugees in the oPt, and about the wide-ranging impact that any interruptions would have on humanitarian needs – including food insecurity rates – in the West Bank and Gaza. The HC expressed concern to the ERC that such interruptions would ultimately pose a threat to the stability of an already fragile region. This opinion is broadly shared by the HCT and humanitarian partners operating in the oPt. In parallel, high level discussions have been conducted involving UNRWA's Commissioner General, the Emergency Relief Coordinator and other UN principals to highlight the criticality of the situation and the continued need for UNRWA humanitarian assistance in oPt.

4. CERF RESULTS

CERF allocated \$15 million to the occupied Palestinian territories from its rapid response window to address the unforeseen and massive shortfall in funding towards food insecure Palestinians in 2018. This funding targeted Palestine Refugees who are the most vulnerable segment of the population by enabling UNRWA to provide life-saving food security related responses to a total of 636,824 people.

5. PEOPLE REACHED

Through CERF funds UNRWA was able to reach a total of 636,824 Palestine Refugees beneficiaries across the oPt, including 56,450 people in the West Bank and 580,374 people in Gaza. This reached beneficiary figures are 3.4 per cent more than the planned beneficiary target, this was possible due to favourable changes in the price of food commodity prices.

The funds were used for life-saving food security related responses, including providing electronic food vouchers for 45,360 people (7,630 households) residing outside the 19 Refugee Camps in the West Bank, with female-headed households representing 18 per cent of the total number of households reached; CfW support to 11,090 people (2,068 households) in 19 Refugee Camps in the West Bank; and in kind food assistance to 580,347 people in Gaza.

Eligibility for emergency food assistance is determined through a poverty assessment survey (Proxy Means Test Formula), conducted through home visits by UNRWA social workers. This system allows to capture essential household characteristics such as age, gender, housing conditions, household compositions, asset ownership and employment status.

The system also takes into account specific vulnerable categories such as female headed households, persons with disability, and people assessed as experiencing multiple vulnerability factors, including protection threats. The proxy-means test formula for the West Bank gives special weight to the highlighted categories that have been prioritized for UNRWA food security interventions in the oPt.

There is no overlap in the number of beneficiaries reached through food vouchers and CfW interventions as the two modalities were employed in different geographical areas to ensure the maximum number of vulnerable food insecure families was reached. Furthermore, in order to avoid duplications in the provision of the service, UNRWA maintains regular coordination with other relevant partners in the oPt, such as the Ministry of Social Development and WFP. The Agency is also an active member of the Food Security Cluster.

18-RR-PSE-28903 TABLE 4: NUMBER OF PEOPLE DIRECTLY ASSISTED WITH CERF FUNDING BY SECTOR ¹									
Cluster/Sector	Female			Male			Total		
	Girls (< 18)	Women (≥ 18)	Total	Boys (< 18)	Men (≥ 18)	Total	Children (< 18)	Adults (≥ 18)	Total
Food Security - Food Aid	152,170	164,901	317,071	153,730	166,023	319,753	290,114	330,924	636,824

¹ Best estimate of the number of individuals (girls, women, boys, and men) directly supported through CERF funding by cluster/sector.

18-RR-PSE-28903 TABLE 5: TOTAL NUMBER OF PEOPLE DIRECTLY ASSISTED WITH CERF FUNDING ²									
	Female			Male			Total		
	Girls (< 18)	Women (≥ 18)	Total	Boys (< 18)	Men (≥ 18)	Total	Children (< 18)	Adults (≥ 18)	Total
Planned	143,290	166,225	309,515	143,290	166,225	309,515	286,580	332,450	619,030
Reached	152,170	164,901	317,071	153,730	166,023	319,753	305,900	330,924	636,824

² Best estimate of the total number of individuals (girls, women, boys, and men) directly supported through CERF funding. This should, as best possible, exclude significant overlaps and double counting between the sectors.

18-RR-PSE-28903 TABLE 6: PEOPLE DIRECTLY ASSISTED WITH CERF FUNDING BY CATEGORY		
Category	Number of people (Planned)	Number of people (Reached)
Refugees	619,030	636,824
IDPs		
Host population		
Affected people (none of the above)		
Total (same as in table 5)	619,030	636,824

6. CERF's ADDED VALUE

a) Did CERF funds lead to a fast delivery of assistance to people in need?

YES

PARTIALLY

NO

CERF RR request was submitted on 28 February by the RC/HC, receiving official approval within one week. Funds were disbursed on 15 March, one week after the approval. The quick disbursement allowed UNRWA to maintain the provision of humanitarian assistance to the most vulnerable, avoiding a critical disruption in emergency services.

The contribution from OCHA oPt Humanitarian Fund was disbursed slightly before CERF RR funds, however this amount was not enough to cover the totality of needs and was destined to support interventions in the West Bank only. At the time of the drafting and submission of the CERF RR proposal, no other grant was available in the same short timeframe and in a similar amount as CERF rapid response to cover urgent humanitarian needs in the West Bank and Gaza.

b) Did CERF funds help respond to time-critical needs?

YES

PARTIALLY

NO

Associated repercussions to UNRWAs unprecedented funding shortfall began to materialize in January 2018 as demonstrations broke out in the context of the temporary suspension -pending funding- of the CfW and food voucher activities. These developments carried the risk of disrupting the procurement and delivery of life saving food assistance to 580,374 people in Gaza and to 56,450 people in the West Bank who rely on CfW and food vouchers provided by UNRWA, as well as rapidly escalating the wide spread of panic and alarm amongst the Palestinian population leading to escalations and the destabilizing of the oPt and possibly the region. The timely release of CERF funds to the effect of resuming operations was critical to the calming of the situation, and averting the potential grave consequences of inability to provide food assistance to the most vulnerable.

c) Did CERF improve coordination amongst the humanitarian community?

YES

PARTIALLY

NO

The CERF rapid response funds enhanced, and thus improved, the existing coordination process amongst the humanitarian community and supported a smooth process. UNRWA has led the humanitarian responses in respect to Palestine Refugees since the beginning of the protracted crisis and has a well established coordination process as well as operative capabilities. Furthermore, UNRWA maintained regular coordination with the humanitarian community to understand the potential impact of the critical funding shortfall and seek a coordinated solution to avoid any interruption in the provision of services. The CERF RR submission was supported by the Humanitarian Country Team and the Humanitarian Coordinator. The technical aspects of UNRWA interventions were shared and discussed with relevant clusters, including the food security cluster, and were formulated in line with the HCT Humanitarian Response Plan (HRP) for the oPt. Throughout the reporting period, UNRWA participated in a number of coordination meetings, providing updates to donors and partners on the implementation of its activities. In parallel and throughout the year, UNRWA continued to be an active member of the HCT in the oPt, including clusters, and continued to participate in information sharing and common planning processes such as the Humanitarian Needs Overview (HNO) and Humanitarian Response Plan (HRP).

d) Did CERF funds help improve resource mobilization from other sources?

YES

PARTIALLY

NO

In 2018, UNRWA has launched sustained fundraising efforts, including through a global campaign (#DignityIsPriceless), high level engagement with donors; and extraordinary pledging conferences. The prompt and generous support provided by CERF to UNRWA emergency operations in the oPt contributed to highlighting the critical situation of Palestine refugees; and served as a key advocacy tool to engage the donor community and appeal for sustained and needs-based humanitarian funding for the most vulnerable Palestine refugees.

e) If applicable, please highlight other ways in which CERF has added value to the humanitarian response

CERF RR funds prevented a critical gap in humanitarian operations and avoided further destabilization. Vulnerable Palestine refugees targeted by UNRWA in the West Bank and Gaza, have no other means of meeting their basic needs other than the humanitarian assistance provided by the Agency. At the beginning of 2018, when the financial shortfall put at risk the continuity of UNRWA humanitarian activities in the oPt, the Agency consulted with other stakeholders in the West Bank and Gaza, to avoid a critical disruption in the provision of services. However, no other Agency or partner in that moment counted on additional financial and operational resources to quickly step up their operation, and ensure coverage of the same number of beneficiaries normally reached through UNRWA food security assistance.

7. LESSONS LEARNED

TABLE 6: OBSERVATIONS FOR THE CERF SECRETARIAT

Lessons learned	Suggestion for follow-up/improvement
Early engagement and coordination with the HC, HCT, OCHA and CERF Secretariat proved essential to ensure an effective prioritization for CERF funding and a smooth application process.	Maintain early engagement and communications with relevant stakeholders in country and at HQ level
The time between the submission of the application and the disbursement was reasonable and allowed operations to continue.	
The provision of CERF RR contribution in one allotment avoided the disruption in the implementation of the activities and contributed to meet the project deadlines.	

TABLE 7: OBSERVATIONS FOR COUNTRY TEAMS

Lessons learned	Suggestion for follow-up/improvement	Responsible entity
The process was straightforward and timely. Coordination with the RC/HC and OCHA proved very effective and supportive. The interventions proposed by UNRWA for CERF RR contributions were in line with the HRP and clusters' priorities.	As the process was smooth and effective we have no suggestion for this section.	N/A

PART II

8. PROJECT REPORTS (UNRWA)

8.1. Project Report 18-RR-RWA-001 - UNRWA

1. Project information			
1. Agency:	UNRWA	2. Country:	occupied Palestinian territory
3. Cluster/Sector:	Food Security - Food Aid	4. Project code (CERF):	18-RR-RWA-001
5. Project title:	Life-saving food security assistance for vulnerable Palestine refugees in Gaza and West Bank		
6.a Original Start date:	01/02/2018	6.b Original End date	31/07/2018
6.c. No-cost Extension	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> No <input type="checkbox"/> Yes	if yes, specify revised end date:	[Fill in DD.MM.YY]
6.d Were all activities concluded by the end date (including NCE date)	<input type="checkbox"/> No <input type="checkbox"/> Yes (if not, please explain in section 12)		
7. Funding	a. Total requirement for agency's sector response to current emergency:	US\$ 187,881,745	
	b. Total funding received for agency's sector response to current emergency:	US\$ 93,247,644	
	c. Amount received from CERF:	US\$ 15,005,129	
	d. Total CERF funds forwarded to implementing partners of which to:	US\$ 0	
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ <i>Government Partners</i> ▪ <i>International NGOs</i> ▪ <i>National NGOs</i> ▪ <i>Red Cross/Crescent</i> 		

2. Project Results Summary/Overall Performance
<p>Through the release of CERF RR funds, UNRWA was able to reach a total of 636,824 acute food insecure Palestine Refugee beneficiaries across the oPt, including 56,450 people in the West Bank and 580,374 people in Gaza. Beneficiaries were selected through the Agency Proxy Means Testing Formula (PMTF) which measures household income and expenditure characteristics to identify families most in need.</p> <p>The funds were used for life-saving food security related responses, including providing electronic food vouchers for 45,360 people (7,630 households) residing outside the 19 Refugee Camps in the West Bank, with female-headed households representing 18 per cent of the total number of households reached; CFW support to 11,090 people (2,068 households) in 19 Refugee Camps in the West Bank; and in kind food assistance to 580,347 people in Gaza.</p>

Through this CERF fund, UNRWA was able to mitigate the food insecurity of 636,824 abject poor Palestine Refugees, and averted potential escalations in panic and violence associated with the suspension of services by UNRWA.

3. Changes and Amendments

The interventions funded through the CERF RR window were carried out in the expected timeframe and according to plan. In Gaza, the number of beneficiaries was overachieved by 3.4 per cent due to a decline in food commodity prices which allowed additional commodities to be purchased.

UNRWA emergency activities in oPt have remained underfunded throughout the year. This has forced the agency to implement a number of changes, prioritizing the provision of life-saving assistance to the most vulnerable Palestine Refugees over the delivery of other agency's services, which have been altered or discontinued in the second half of the year.

4. People Reached

4a. Number of people directly assisted with cerf funding by age group and sex

	Female			Male			Total		
	Girls (< 18)	Women (≥ 18)	Total	Boys (< 18)	Men (≥ 18)	Total	Children (< 18)	Adults (≥ 18)	Total
Planned	143,290	166,225	309,515	143,290	166,225	309,515	286,580	332,450	619,030
Reached	152,170	164,901	317,071	153,730	166,023	319,753	305,900	330,924	636,824

4b. Number of people directly assisted with cerf funding by category

Category	Number of people (Planned)	Number of people (Reached)
Refugees	619,030	636,824
IDPs		
Host population		
Affected people (none of the above)		
Total (same as in 4a)	619,030	636,824

In case of significant discrepancy between planned and reached beneficiaries, either the total numbers or the age, sex or category distribution, please describe reasons:

In the West Bank, the slight variation in the target (3.6 per cent) is due to the difference in the estimated family size of six members during the planning phase, and the actual family sizes reached during the implementation phase which was slightly lower.

In respect to the CfW related figures, the variation is due to a number of labourers who decided to discontinue their contract under the CFW due to the uncertainty of the funding of the program.

In Gaza, the change in the price of some food commodities allowed to reach about 3.4 per cent more beneficiaries than the expected target.

5. CERF Result Framework

Project objective	Provide life-saving food security assistance to 560,430 vulnerable Palestine refugees in Gaza; and to 58,600 vulnerable Palestine refugees in the West Bank.
--------------------------	--

Output 1	Food-insecure refugee households in the West Bank are provided with the means to meet their most basic food requirements.			
Indicators	Description	Target	Achieved	Source of verification
Indicator 1.1	Number of food-insecure refugees receiving food voucher assistance	7,666 HHs (46,000 refugees in total. Male: 23,000; female: 23,000. 13,800 hereof are children).	7,630 HHs (45,360 refugees in total. Male: 22,680; female: 22,680. 12,700 hereof are children).	UNRWA quarterly reports and monthly database (result based monitoring system)
Indicator 1.2	Number of food-insecure female headed households receiving food voucher assistance	1,457 (19% of the total target)	1,457 (17.78% of the total target)	UNRWA quarterly reports and monthly database (result based monitoring system)
Explanation of output and indicators variance:		<p>The small variance is due to the identification of beneficiaries through the PMTF system which ranks the vulnerability from one household to another leading to the difference in the planned target.</p> <p>In the West Bank , the slight variation in the target (3.6 per cent) is due to the difference in the estimated family size of six members during the planning phase, and the actual family sizes reached during the implementation phase which was slightly lower.</p> <p>In respect to the CfW related figures, the variation is due to a number of labourers who decided to discontinue their contract under the CFW due to the uncertainty of the funding of the program.</p>		
Activities	Description	Implemented by		
Activity 1.1	Identifying food insecure refugees living outside refugee camps in need of electronic food vouchers according to UNRWA criteria	UNRWA		
Activity 1.2	Distribution of food vouchers and monthly cash transfers to electronic food vouchers	UNRWA		
Activity 1.3	Monitoring and post-distribution follow-up	UNRWA		

Output 2	Food insecure refugees living inside refugee camps in the West Bank earn short-term wages to cover their basic food needs			
Indicators	Description	Target	Achieved	Source of verification
Indicator 2.1	Number of food-insecure refugee households engaged in CfW	2,100	2,068	UNRWA quarterly reports and monthly database (result based monitoring system RBM)
Indicator 2.2	Total number of food insecure refugees benefiting from CfW assistance	12,600 (male: 6,300; female: 6,300)	12,408 (male: 6,204; female: 6,204)	UNRWA quarterly reports and monthly database (result based monitoring system RBM)

Indicator 2.3	Percentage of women hired under the CfW programme	35% (735 women)	49% (1,013 female)	UNRWA quarterly reports and monthly database (result based monitoring system RBM)
Indicator 2.4	Percentage of youth hired under the CfW programme	12% (252 youth) 12% is of total number of people hired	12.48% (258 youth) is of total number of people hired	UNRWA quarterly reports and monthly database (result based monitoring system RBM)
Explanation of output and indicators variance:		<p>In the West Bank, the slight variation in the target (3.6 per cent) is due to the difference in the estimated family size of six members during the planning phase, and the actual family sizes reached during the implementation phase which was slightly lower.</p> <p>In respect to the CfW related figures, the variation is due to a number of labourers who decided to discontinue their contract under the CFW due to the uncertainty of the funding of the program.</p> <p>Regarding the number of females and youth participating in the short term work opportunities, this is slightly higher than planned, as UNRWA could identify an additional number of women and youth in need through the PMTF; moreover, all female and youth family members identified as in need accepted the work opportunities offered through the programme.</p>		
Activities	Description	Implemented by		
Activity 2.1	Identifying food insecure refugee households in need of CfW support according to UNRWA criteria	UNRWA		
Activity 2.2	Signing contracts with beneficiaries of the CfW opportunities	UNRWA		
Activity 2.3	Defining appropriate CfW opportunities for beneficiaries	UNRWA		
Activity 2.4	Monitoring and post-distribution follow-up	UNRWA		

Output 3	Vulnerable refugee households in Gaza are able to meet their most basic food requirements			
Indicators	Description	Target	Achieved	Source of verification
Indicator 3.1	Number of refugees living beneath the abject-poverty line of US\$ 1.74 per person per day who receive emergency food assistance	560,430 (280,215 male; 280,215 female)	580,374 (291,528 male; 288,846 female)	UNRWA records and systems (RSSP quarterly indicators/ reports)
Indicator 3.2	Percentage of caloric needs for the abject poor that are met through food distributions	80%	80%	UNRWA records and systems (RSSP quarterly indicators/ reports)
Explanation of output and indicators variance:		Small variance depends on variation in commodity prices which enabled UNRWA to exceed the initially planned target		
Activities	Description	Implemented by		
Activity 3.1	Identification of eligible families	UNRWA- Relief and Social Services Programme (RSSP)		
Activity 3.2	Purchasing, delivery (by the supplier) and preparation of food commodities. A portion of the commodities has already been procured using an advance against the US pledge (approximately \$6m). The remainder will be used to cover the costs of additional flour, rice and milk.	UNRWA- Procurement and logistics department, Amman, in coordination with Logistics office, GFO		

Activity 3.3	Distribution of food commodities to beneficiaries through UNRWA's Distribution Centres (distribution costs covered through other sources of funding)	UNRWA- Relief and Social Services Programme (RSSP)
--------------	--	--

6. Accountability to Affected People

The feedback and lessons learned from the affected population gained from UNRWA's implementation of similar projects in previous years in the oPt has continued to be an integral component to informing the design phase of the projects.

During the implementation phase UNRWA ensured that refugees had direct and regular access to UNRWA staff through its extensive network of area offices, camp services offices, schools, health centres and other installations. In the West Bank, a communication plan with camp service committees was implemented through the West Bank Field Office senior management. UNRWA also operated a hotline service for beneficiaries of its food voucher programme outside camps, with an operator receiving and responding to complaints and requests for changes. The hotline contact details were visibly displayed in each shop that was a part of the electronic food voucher programme. Concerns around the CfW programme were managed directly through Camp Service Offices within refugee camps, with complaints or concerns around targeting handled by a specific committee. In the Gaza Strip a Communication with Communities approach was adopted and provided Palestine Refugees with enhanced access to information and for enabling their voices to be accounted for in decision-making processes related to the provision of humanitarian services. Complaints boxes are available in the majority of UNRWA installations, as a tool to provide feedback to the Agency. UNRWA has developed a communication platform web portal in Arabic to inform beneficiaries of any developments regarding services and operations.

UNRWA has its own monitoring system (results based monitoring system- RBM) to measure and ensure its programs are achieved as planned. This comes alongside conducting regular field visits to shops of the food voucher program as well as the working sites of the CfW labourers to make sure that activities are implemented as planned, and having consultations with the communities/camps as part of the monitoring and follow-up to the Agency food security programmes. Monitoring activities were also part of the UNRWA- WFP partnership for the electronic food voucher programme.

UNRWA's monitoring and evaluation unit has also been involved in monitoring the distribution at UNRWA distribution centres in Gaza and was able to conduct a survey with a representative sample of beneficiaries regarding the quality of items, attitudes of front line staff, effectiveness, and their general satisfaction. Almost all of the interviewed beneficiaries expressed their satisfaction with the food distribution.

7. Cash-Based Interventions

7.a Did the project include one or more Cash Based Intervention(s) (CBI)?

Planned	Actual
Yes, CBI is a component of the CERF project	Yes, CBI is a component of the CERF project

7.b Please specify below the parameters of the CBI modality/ies used. If more than one modality was used in the project, please complete separate rows for each modality. Please indicate the estimated **value of cash** that was transferred to people assisted through each modality (best estimate of the value of cash and/or vouchers, not including associated delivery costs). Please refer to the guidance and examples above.

CBI modality	Value of cash (US\$)	a. Objective	b. Conditionality	c. Restriction
Cash	US\$ 1,730,143	Multi-purpose cash	Conditional	Unrestricted
Vouchers	US\$ 1,107,172	Sector-specific	Unconditional	Restricted
	US\$ [insert amount]	Choose an item.	Choose an item.	Choose an item.
	US\$ [insert amount]	Choose an item.	Choose an item.	Choose an item.
	US\$ [insert amount]	Choose an item.	Choose an item.	Choose an item.

Supplementary information (optional)

The range of modalities in the provision of assistance (food distribution, CfW, vouchers) reflects differentiated operating conditions and some donor policies in the West Bank and Gaza Strip. These manifest themselves most clearly in relation to restrictions on the use of cash in Gaza, which have prevented UNRWA from moving away from direct food delivery there. In the West Bank, UNRWA uses CfW programming inside camps and food vouchers outside camps, to meet the food security needs of vulnerable refugees.

Under the Food Voucher Programme in the West Bank, UNRWA has a partnership with the World Food Programme based on a memorandum of understanding signed between both parties. UNRWA transfers the funds required monthly to WFP to cover the electronic benefits of the voucher cards. UNRWA maintains continuous coordination with the Food Security Sector and has a close coordination with the Ministry of Social Development in the West Bank. UNRWA participates in the monthly Food Security Cluster meetings and shares updates. UNRWA reports on achievements and received contributions through the FTS and as part of the HRP mechanism.

8. Evaluation: Has this project been evaluated or is an evaluation pending?

Activities implemented through CERF funding are regularly monitored through the Agency Results-Based Monitoring (RBM) system, and therefore, no specific evaluation for the CERF funded interventions is necessary. Furthermore, activities supported by CERF RR grant are also reported against as part of the 2018 oPt emergency Appeal Progress report, which the Agency plans to issue in November 2018.

EVALUATION CARRIED OUT

EVALUATION PENDING

NO EVALUATION PLANNED

ANNEX 3: ACRONYMS AND ABBREVIATIONS (Alphabetical)

CERF RR	CERF Rapid Response
CFW	Cash for work
HCT	Humanitarian Country Team
HF	Humanitarian Fund
HNO	Humanitarian Needs Overview
HRP	Humanitarian Response Plan
oPt	Occupied Palestinian territory
UNRWA	United Nations Relief and Works Agency for Palestine Refugees in the Near East