



WFP OPERATIONS IN THE OCCUPIED PALESTINIAN TERRITORY

SITUATION REPORT

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Special points of interest:

WFP and UNRWA will implement a joint project aiming at providing support to poor Beduin communities in area C of the West Bank

WFP at a glance

PRRO (WB) beneficiaries	320,000
EMOP Gaza beneficiaries	365,000
EMOP Food Voucher (WB) beneficiaries	30,000
Stock in Gaza (MT)	8,884
Stock in West Bank(MT)	8,499 mt*

* Includes WFP warehouses only

WFP operations in oPt

WFP's **PRRO** (Protracted Relief and Recovery Operation) started in September 2007 to meet the food needs of the most vulnerable non-refugees; it has covered both the West Bank and Gaza till December 08 and since January 09, following the conflict in Gaza and the launch of WFP's Emergency Operation (EMOP) Lifeline Gaza, it has been assisting beneficiaries in the West Bank only. The PRRO consists of four main interventions: (i) Emergency relief for the destitute (in partnership with the MoSA); (ii) Livelihood support for vulnerable households (poor farmers, unemployed workers and vulnerable women most affected by poverty and who have only partial means to cope with food insecurity); (iii) School feeding in the most food-insecure areas through cash-for-work activities, (nutritious snacks are prepared by bakeries and women centres which receive food commodities and cash from WFP); and (iv) Food-for-Work (FFW) and Food-for-Training (FFT) to contribute to and promote self-reliance by preserving agricultural assets to restore livelihoods.

Following the conflict in Gaza, two new operations were launched: the EMOP Operation Lifeline Gaza



M. Dana/WFP - Food for work activity, rehabilitation of agricultural roads, Halhul town, May 2009

and the Logistics Cluster Special Operation (SO). The **EMOP** targets 365,000 beneficiaries (i.e. 80 percent of the non-refugee population in Gaza). Its main objectives are: (i) meeting urgent needs and improving food consumption for conflict-affected people through the timely provision of food rations and food vouchers; and (ii) maintaining enrolment of girls and boys in assisted schools at pre-crisis levels through school feeding coverage targeting 50,000 children.

The **Logistics Cluster** is led by WFP and operates to support UN agencies, local/international NGOs and international organizations with: (i) cargo movement facilitation and

transport to Gaza; (ii) civil/military coordination; (iii) logistics information management; (iv) transit hub for cargo consolidation and preparation; and (v) Humanitarian Coordinator/UNRWA/OCHA liaison.

To respond to the high food prices, WFP launched a **Food Voucher EMOP** in the West Bank (that will be implemented at a later stage in Gaza as well) covering approximately 5,500 families in urban areas, selected on the basis of two key studies conducted in 2008 (Safety Net Mission and Rapid Joint Food Security Assessment).

Operational Update

WFP delivered over 3,220 mt of sugar, vegetable oil, peas and wheat flour in Gaza during the reporting period. It is estimated that 1,135 mt of food commodities were distributed between 17 and 30 May to 72,647 beneficiaries in collaboration with CHF, OXFAM and MoSA.

Following the feasibility study conducted in Gaza after the war on the possible implementation of a food voucher component in Gaza, preliminary meetings are ongoing with OXFAM to revise the list of the Voucher project beneficiaries (targeted through the Proxy means test formula [PMTF]) and procedures for the

start up-phase in Gaza, aimed for September 2009. The use of the PMTF is part of the overall strategy to standardize targeting mechanisms in the oPt.

In the **West Bank**, 100 mt was distributed under the School Feeding (SF) programme to 36,237 students between 17 and 30 May.



C. Galluzzi/WFP - Women preparing snacks for WFP School feeding programme. Nablus, May 2009

With the end of the 2008/9 school year in the first week of June, a work-

shop will be conducted on 10 June in Ramallah with all stakeholders and with the support of a SF expert from WFP Headquarters, in order to assess this year's programme implementation and define the strategy for the year 2009/10 (funding still needs to be identified).

After not being able to move cargo into Gaza since 15 April due to lack of clearance from COGAT, the **Logistics Cluster** has transported 6,404 pallets of humanitarian items (humanitarian aid consisting of baby toys, toothbrushes, shelter kits and other household items)

into Gaza between 25 May and 1 June. However, restrictions remain in place for import into Gaza of a wide range of cargo, despite Min. Ehud Barak's declarations to the press on 31 May that only "sensitive material and construction material are not transferred in" the Strip. These include floor mats (delayed since 8 April), recreation kits (paper, crayons, balloons, footballs, skipping ropes, hula-hoops, delayed since 8 April), wheelchairs (since 2 April), dry foodstuffs and baby napkins (since 11 May), health kits (since 17 April). A cargo of Medical equipment from MAP-UK that was on hold since 30 January was released on 2 June.

Food Security in oPt

The **total fishing catch in April 2009** amounted to 79 mt, which represents **only one third of the amount of April 2007**. This is due to restrictions by Israeli authorities to access the sea, whereby fishing activity remains limited to 3 nautical miles from the shore. Consequently, the current quantity of sardine currently found on the market is estimated at

20-50 kg daily, instead of the usual 100-150 mt/day during this period, which follows the April sardine season. On 19 May, the sardine price ranged between NIS 23-25/Kg while it was last year at NIS 10-12/Kg. This due to the reduction in the quantity of the sardine catch, since this type of fish is found after 6 nautical miles.

A **joint UNRWA/WFP project will be implemented in the West Bank for poor Beduin communities** in area C. WFP will include UNRWA-registered people married to non-refugees in its caseload and provide a 50 percent food ration to about 5,100 households (i.e., around 35,700 beneficiaries) while UNRWA will ensure the logistics arrangements and carry out a nutrition survey among Beduin and herding communities in area C, in consultation with UNICEF. Cross-checking areas of potential intervention with those identified by OCHA as most affected by water scarcity is ongoing, to ensure coherence in the response. Food distributions are expected to start in August, for an anticipated period of 9 months, in order to cover the winter period.

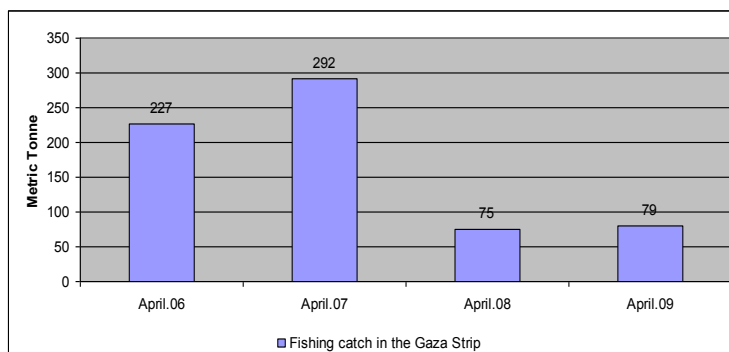


Figure 1: Variations of fishing catch in April over the past four years (Source: WFP database)

Current and upcoming assessments

Following the qualitative Emergency Food Security Assessment (EFSA) in Gaza conducted in January 2009, WFP, FAO and PCBS are conducting a **quantitative socio-economic and food security survey** in the oPt. Data collection is currently ongoing in Gaza, while it is completed in the West Bank. Preliminary results for Gaza are expected at the beginning

of July. The results will be combined with those of two other studies that will be conducted in the West Bank and in Gaza (market study and qualitative study on livelihoods and food security), before being compiled into a **Comprehensive Food security and Vulnerability analysis** that will be published in November. **This will serve as the**

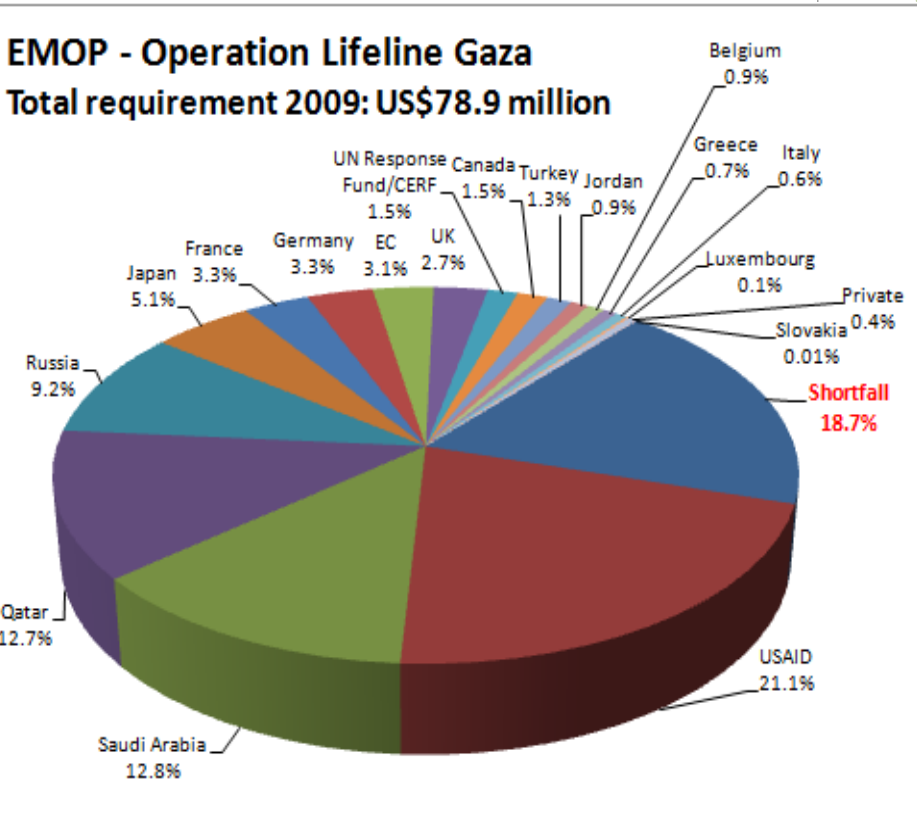
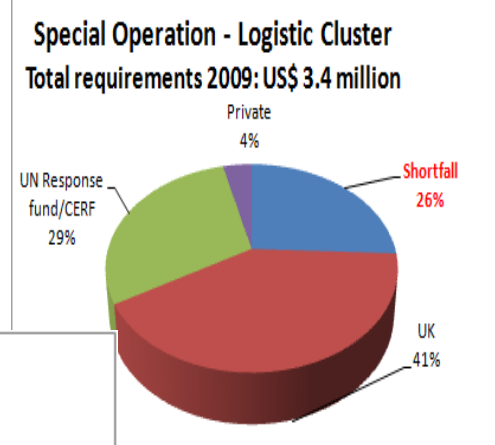
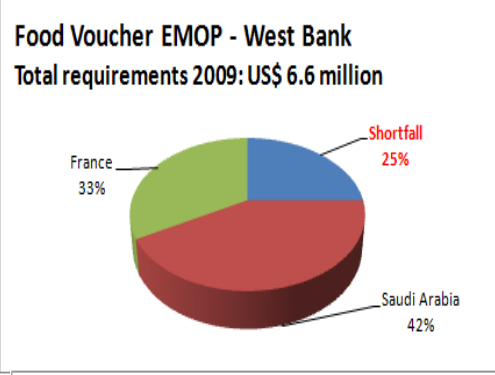
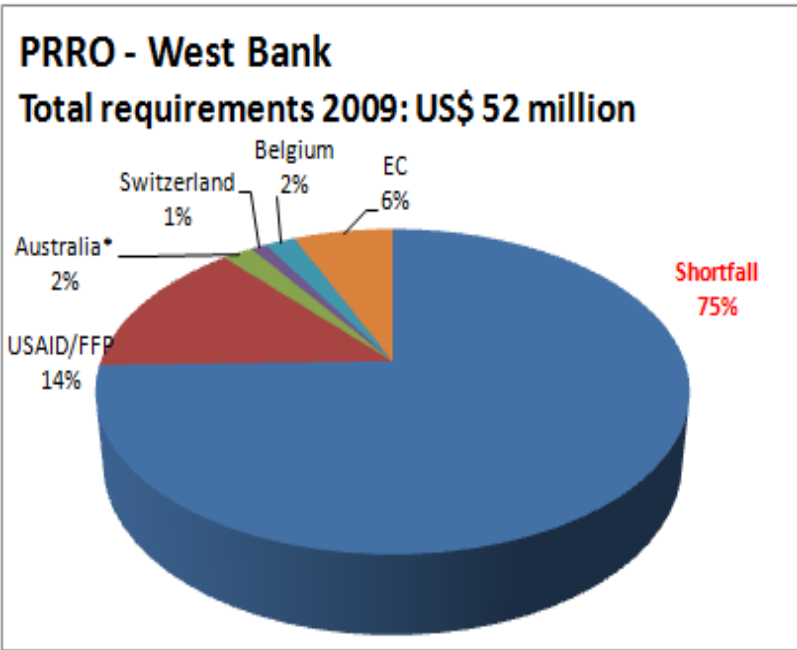
basis for the next WFP PRRO, expected to start mid-2010. A **Food Security Atlas** is being prepared by WFP in collaboration with the Applied Research Institute of Jerusalem and will be available by August 2009.

Shortfalls & Needs

At the moment the top five donors to WFP oPt are: USAID, Saudi Arabia, Qatar, Russia and the European Commission .
We thank our donors for their generous contributions to the Gaza EMOP.

The funding situation of the West Bank PRRO is quite worrisome, with a pipeline break expected by August.
A reduction/suspension of WFP operations in the West Bank and/or Gaza

would have severe consequences on the food security level of the Palestinian families, which are in need of and highly dependent on food assistance.



*Australia's contribution was in support of the population in Gaza. When the donation was confirmed, the PRRO was the only WFP operation and, considered the funding situation in the West Bank, Australia kindly agreed to leave its generous contribution for the PRRO.

You have a comment or a question on the content of this report?

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