

WFP oPt Situation Report, June 2010

JUNE 2010 operational update

PRRO 10387.1 West Bank

Food distributions

4,285 mt

Beneficiaries reached

179,680

Cooperating partners

MoSA, CRS, CHF

Current WFP stocks

4,010 mt

EMOP 10774.0 West Bank

Voucher beneficiaries reached

32,724

Cooperating partners

CRS, ACF

EMOP 10817.0 Gaza

Food distributions

6,168 mt

Beneficiaries reached

216,821 (incl 14,593 voucher beneficiaries)

Cooperating partners

MoSA, CHF, Oxfam GB

Current WFP stocks

3,169 mt

Overview of WFP activities in oPt

WFP has been providing food assistance to the occupied Palestinian territory (oPt) since 1991. The Country Office is located in Jerusalem, and is supported by an office in Gaza, two sub-offices (Nablus and Hebron) and one port office (Ashdod). WFP employs over 100 staff in the oPt, both national and international.

WFP currently meets the food needs of the most vulnerable non-refugees in the oPt through three operations:

- 1) A Protracted Relief and Recovery Operation (PRRO) in the West Bank (2007-2010);
- 2) An Urban Voucher Emergency Operation (EMOP) in the West Bank (2009-2010);
- 3) An Emergency Operation (EMOP) in the Gaza Strip (2009-2011).

A successor West Bank PRRO for the period 2011-2012 will be submitted for approval at the November 2010 session of the WFP Executive board. The PRRO will target a caseload of 454,500 beneficiaries, with a particular focus on priority areas such as Area C and the Seam Zone. Assistance will be provided through the following components: (i) Emergency relief for the destitute; (ii) Livelihood support for vulnerable households (general food distributions and vouchers); (iii) School Meals in the most food-insecure areas, and (iv) a new Voucher-for-Work and Voucher-for-Training component to contribute to and promote self-reliance by preserving agricultural assets to restore livelihoods.

Following its successful roll-out in the West Bank, the Urban Voucher EMOP will be integrated in the PRRO as of January 2011 as part of the livelihood support for vulnerable groups component in urban and semi-urban areas. The caseload will be gradually expanded to 90,000 beneficiaries by the end of 2011.

The Gaza EMOP will be running until April 2011. The EMOP currently targets 313,000 non-refugee beneficiaries through general food distributions and school feeding, i.e., 70 percent of the non-refugee population in Gaza, aiming at meeting the immediate needs of the population affected by the conflict as well as improving the food consumption of families and individuals in need. 15,000 beneficiaries are receiving vouchers in urban and semi-urban areas of the North Gaza, Gaza and Khan Younis Governorates. This enables them to access a range of various commodities including protein-rich food (dairy products and eggs) directly from small and medium-sized shop keepers while saving cash for other essential food and non-food commodities.

WFP also strives to maintain the enrolment of children and enhance concentration levels in schools through the daily distribution of milk and biscuits to 92,000 school-children.



Focus



Attack of the "Tuta Absoluta"



GAZA—Since the early months of 2010, tomato farmers in the Gaza Strip have experienced the progressive spread of the *Tuta Absoluta*, a small leaf miner who normally originates in South America.

The first evidence of its spread across the Mediterranean was recorded in 2006, and what many vegetable farmers in Gaza feared is now reality.

ICRC conducted a preliminary assessment to look at the damage caused by the pest. Out of the 125 greenhouses and plantations visited, half of them have seen their total crop destroyed. One third has seen the leaf miner infest at least 30 percent of their tomato crops.

FAO is currently leading a response strategy with the MoA and ICRC, in order to control the proliferation of the leaf miners and minimize damages to the 2011 crops.

It seems that the damages have not yet impacted the availability of tomatoes in the markets. Prices have been slightly increasing in the past months due to seasonality.

WFP will continue to closely monitor potential impacts on food security, particularly if the "Tuta" jumps to other crops, such as potato, eggplant and peppers.

Urban voucher pilot project in the West Bank: One year after



On 26 June, WFP attended the celebration of the very first anniversary of the pilot Urban Voucher Project in the Governorate of Nablus, in northern West Bank.

The event, an initiative by the Governor, was held at the Labor Union Theater of Nablus bringing together all the Local Committees involved in the successful implementation of the project in the Governorate.



Following the words of appreciation by the Deputy Governor and the Mayor of Nablus, the WFP Country Director seized the occasion of this festive event to look back and reflect on the actual impact of the project on the livelihoods of the more than 12,000 beneficiaries in the Nablus area.

A cost-effectiveness review carried out in May 2010 showed some very positive results. Not only has the number of beneficiaries unable to afford sufficient food of quality been reduced from 24 to 5 percent, the project also significantly supported the enrolled shop-owners as well as the consumption of locally-produced dairy commodities.

In fact, the shopkeepers recorded sale increases of up to 20 percent, the local production of dairy products by small and medium sized factories increased by 30 percent and a third of the shops have hired additional workers during the voucher exchange days.

Before leaving the floor to a spectacular traditional dance group and the cunning talents of an illusionist, WFP acknowledged that the success was mainly due to the great efforts by the Local Committee members and partner ACF (Action against Hunger). WFP announced the expansion of the voucher project in the West Bank



now that the pilot roll-out has been successfully achieved.

As of September 2010, WFP will gradually increase the number of beneficiaries in the whole West Bank from 31,000 to 55,000 before the end of the year. These will not only include families living in urban areas, but also the very poor households in the outskirts of major towns and cities in the West Bank.



Nutrition Awareness Campaign, a WFP/JICA collaboration

On 27 and 28 June, Japanese International Cooperation Agency (JICA) alumni volunteers in Gaza carried out a 2-day educational awareness campaign, promoting nutritional awareness among WFP Social Hardship Case beneficiaries.



The campaign was carried out at the main distribution point of

the May/June WFP distribution cycle, while the beneficiaries were receiving their food rations (partly funded by JICA).

On the first day, beneficiaries were approached and engaged in discussions around the nutritional value of the food received, the benefits of fortification as well as proper handling of the food in their kitchens and storage rooms.

The next day, the JICA volunteers replicated the exercise while visiting institutional feeding centers that are covered by the same WFP activity (Assistance to the Destitute). WFP distributes food rations directly to the institutions such as

orphanages and hospitals, as these beneficiaries are not able to reach WFP distribution points.



The campaign is yet another good example of how resources from different actors can be pooled together in order to maximize the outcome of humanitarian interventions.

Assessments & Surveys

The results of the studies and assessments conducted in 2009 have been compiled into a **Comprehensive Food security and Vulnerability analysis**, which was published in December 2009.

The 2010 **Socio-Economic and Food Security Survey (SEFsec)** is currently being carried out in the oPt. The reports for the West Bank and the Gaza Strip are expected in September 2010.

A **Food Security Atlas**, prepared by WFP in collaboration with the Applied Research Institute of Jerusalem, was launched in February 2010.

A **Buffer Zone Rapid Assessment** has been carried out in the Gaza Strip in partnership with OCHA in order to measure the impact of the Buffer Zone on the livelihoods of the populations living in and near the area, as well as quantify the damages and agricultural losses. The report will be published at the end July 2010.

A **study on the impact of the tunnels on the market in the Gaza Strip** has been carried out in the Gaza Strip in partnership with OCHA in order to assess the socio-economic impact of the tunnels in relation to the blockade. The report is expected in August 2010.

A **Mid-Term Evaluation** for the voucher component of the Gaza EMOP is planned in Sept/Oct 2010, and will guide future programme modalities starting May 2011.

All assessments and surveys are available on www.wfpal.org



TOP 10 DONORS IN 2009/2010

1. USAID
2. Saudi Arabia
3. Qatar
4. ECHO
5. Russian Federation
6. Japan
7. France
8. DFID
9. Canada
10. UN CERF

Requirements and funding in 2010 (in USD)

The 2010 requirements for the West Bank PRRO have been fully met. There remains a funding shortfall for the Gaza EMOP and the West Bank Urban Voucher EMOP:

Gaza EMOP 10817.0: 95% funded and a USD 2,129,027 shortfall

West Bank UVP EMOP 10774.0: 70% funded and a USD 2,524,042 shortfall

Requirements in 2011 (in USD)

EMOP 10817.0 Gaza	
2011 requirements	48,293,498

PRRO 200037 West Bank	
2011 requirements	51,696,634

In view of the required lead time to procure and transport food commodities, the contributions to the 2011 EMOP in Gaza and the new PRRO in the West Bank should be confirmed within the next 2 months in order for WFP to enable a smooth transition between the 2010 and 2011 operations.

Governments are the principal source of funding for WFP worldwide; the organization receives no dues or portions of the UN assessed contributions. On average, over 60 governments underwrite the humanitarian and development projects of WFP. All government support is on an entirely voluntary basis.

On behalf of our beneficiaries, we thank our donor partners for their generous contributions to WFP operations in oPt