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The Palestinian Employment Fund

Ministry Of Finance

Ministry of Social Development

Ministry of Labor

مشروع الحمايـــة الاجتماعية
Social Protection Project

WEST BANK AND GAZA EMERGENCY SOCIAL PROTECTION AND JOBS COVID-19 RESPONSE PROJECT

(2020- 2024)

For more information

Funded By:

THE WORLD BANK
IBRD • IDA | WORLD BANK GROUP

INTRODUCTION

WHY WE NEED A SOCIAL PROTECTION PROJECT

COVID-19 Impact

5,078 deaths and **703,228** confirmed COVID-19 cases. **WHO** identified the region as high-risk due to insufficient healthcare resources.

Gaza Crisis 2021 & 2023- till now:

The crisis increased damage to vital infrastructure & sectors (Health, Education, Social Services).

Rising Unemployment and Worsening Food Insecurity

Projected a 57% unemployment rate by Q1 2024. In Gaza, 96% of the population faces food insecurity, with 2.15 million people at crisis or worse levels of hunger.

PROJECT CONTEXT

- **The Palestinian Authority (PA) took swift action to mitigate the effects of COVID-19** through a national emergency response, seeking donor support to address health challenges and fiscal deficits due to declining revenues.
- To support vulnerable households, the PA launched a support plan for those who lost livelihoods during the pandemic and lockdowns.
- The project aligns with the 2017-2022 National Policy Agenda, prioritizing citizens' needs and promoting social justice and rule of law under the PA's seventh national priority.
- The project is part of a larger reform strategy aimed at **providing better living standards, services, and public institutions that are accountable, transparent, and responsive to citizens**.
- The PA allocated NIS 3.4 billion (20.4% of the 2022 budget) for social protection interventions

I. PROJECT HIGHLIGHT

PROJECT FUNDING

Project Approval

July 27, 2020: initial a **US$30** million financed (TFBGW).

First Additional Financing

April 19, 2022: **US$9.422** million financed (MNA MDTF) and (PURSE)

Second Additional Financing

October 18, 2023: **$10 million** for food insecurity and poverty due to the Gaza War in 2023.

PROJECT ALLOCATION

Total Project Funding

$49.4 million allocated for the project's various components

Emergency Cash Transfers

$35.7 million was dedicated to cash transfers for households in the West Bank and Gaza.

Cash for Work Program

$10.9 million was allocated to short-term employment programs through NGOs.

Capacity Building & Outreach

$1.03 million for capacity building and $1.6M for the contingent emergency response (CERC).

PROJECT OBJECTIVE

Protect The Poor And Vulnerable

Provide emergency cash transfers and in-kind support to the most vulnerable households in the West Bank and Gaza

Create Employment Opportunities

Offer short-term employment through Cash for Work programs to improve livelihoods.

Support Businesses and Institutions

Strengthen local businesses and build the capacity of national institutions and NGOs.

Respond to Emergencies

With flexible emergency funds, ensure rapid response to crises like COVID-19 and the Gaza conflict.

PROJECT COMPONENTS

Component1: Emergency Cash Transfers in the West Bank and Gaza
311,241 households received support, surpassing the 182,152 target (171%)

Component 2: Cash for Work in the West Bank
3,965 beneficiaries received short-term employment, surpassing the 3,940 target.

Component 3: Capacity Building Project Management, Monitoring and Evaluation

Component 4: Contingent Emergency Response Component (CERC)
Activated during the Gaza escalation in 2021, providing $1.6M to 7,600 beneficiaries.

PROJECT BENEFICIARIES' SELECTION CRITERIA

Selection Criteria

18–65 years old.

Only one individual per household.

At least 50% female beneficiaries.

At least 20% of CTP beneficiaries list

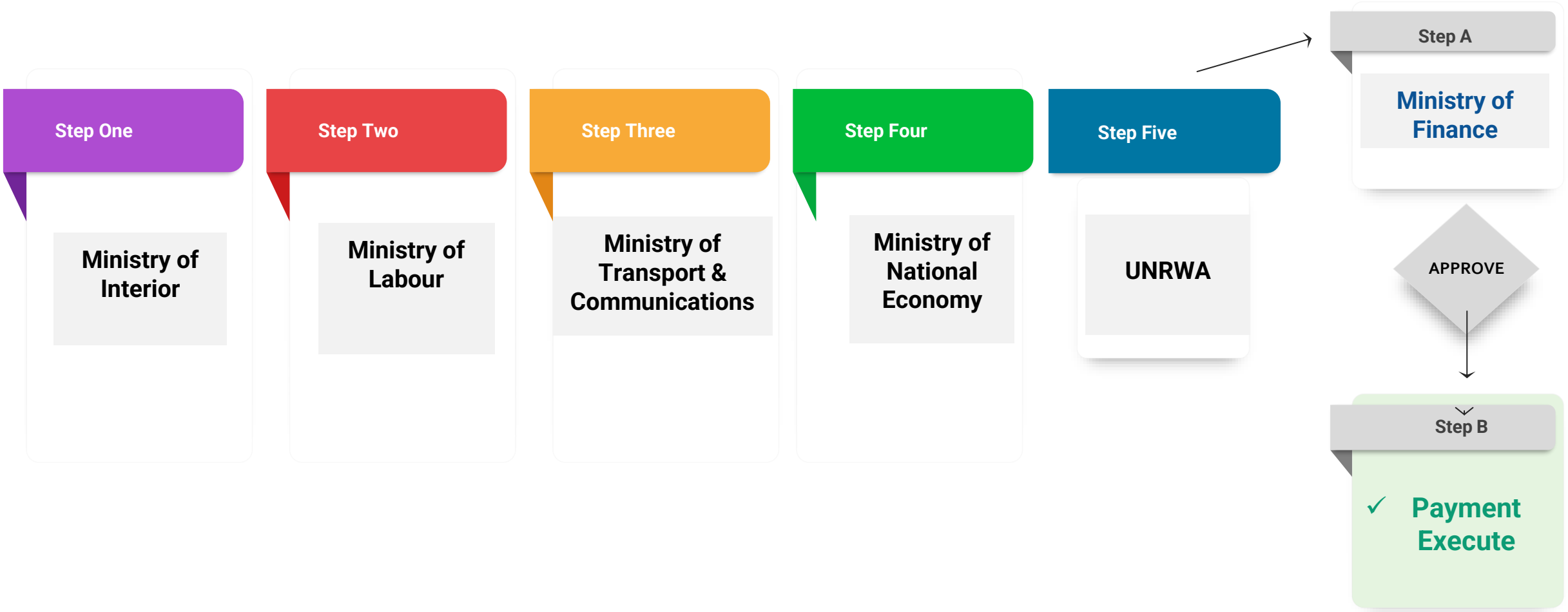
Unemployed for the last 6 months.

Minimum qualifications for the requirements for the job

Transparency Measures

exclusion of households with high-ranking public officials.

PROJECT BENEFICIARIES' CROSS-CHECKING AND VALIDATION



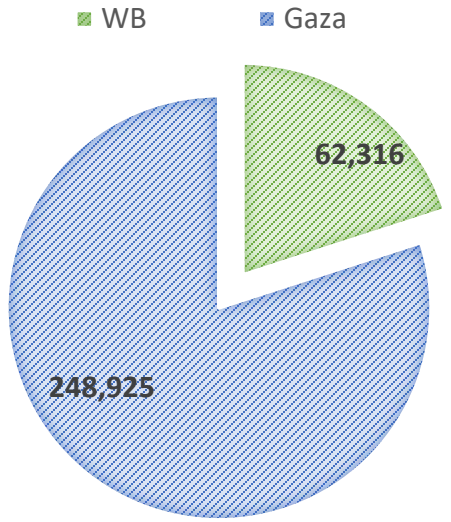
II. ACHIEVEMENTS BY COMPONENT

Component1: Emergency Cash Support and/or In-kind in the West Bank & Gaza

This component provides Emergency Cash Support and/or In-kind in the West Bank and Gaza.
The end target is 182,152 household beneficiaries.

The total number of households who received cash and/or In-kind support is **311,241** of which 47% are females

The West Bank achieved **100.3%,** and Gaza achieved **207.4%**, resulting in an overall achievement of **171%**.



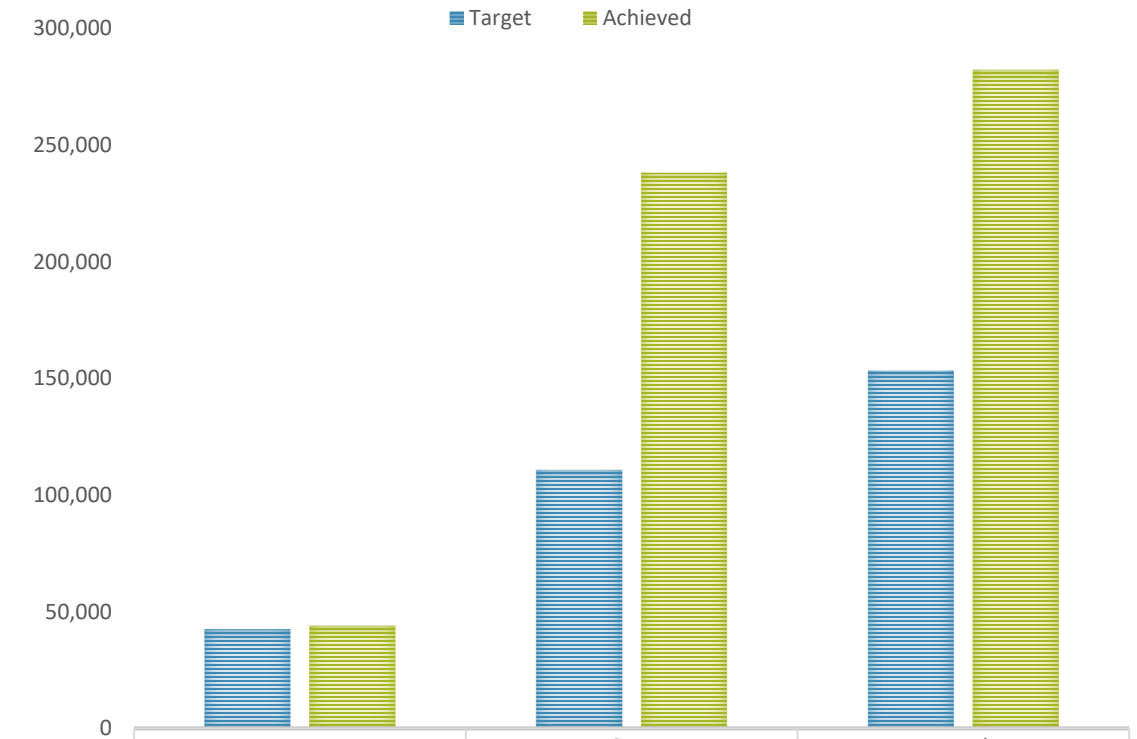
Subcomponent 1.1. Emergency Cash Support and/or In-kind Support

This subcomponent provides a one-time cash transfer and/or in-kind support to vulnerable households and workers affected by COVID-19, as well as those impacted by the Gaza War. The implementing partners are MOL, MoSD, and WFP.

The total number of beneficiaries who received cash support is **282,089** out of 153,115 targeted households.

- West Bank (WB): target achievement is **103.7%.**
- Gaza: target achievement is **215.2%**.

The overall total, achievement is **184.2%**



	WB	Gaza	Total
Target	42,470	110,645	153,115
Achieved	44,040	238,049	282,089

Subcomponent 1.2: Financing of the CTP-Funding Gap

This subcomponent is financing the temporary CTP financing gap, building on the ongoing CTP registry and the operating delivery systems, in cooperation with MoSD.

The total number of beneficiaries who received cash support is **29,152** out of 29,037 targeted beneficiaries.

- West Bank (WB): target achievement is **93%.**
- Gaza: target achievement is **116%.**

The overall total, achievement is **100.4%**

	WB	Gaza	Total
Target	19653	10876	29037
Achieved	9384	18276	29152

Component 2: Cash for Work in the West Bank

This component provides sub-grants to selected NGOs to implement Cash-for-Work (C4W) subprojects aimed at employing vulnerable populations. The supported subprojects focus on sectors such as health, education, agriculture, and social services. The end targeted number is 3940.

Targeted Beneficiaries

3,965 beneficiaries received short-term employment, surpassing the target of 3,940.

Supported Sectors

Projects focused on health, education, agriculture, and social services sectors.

NGO Involvement

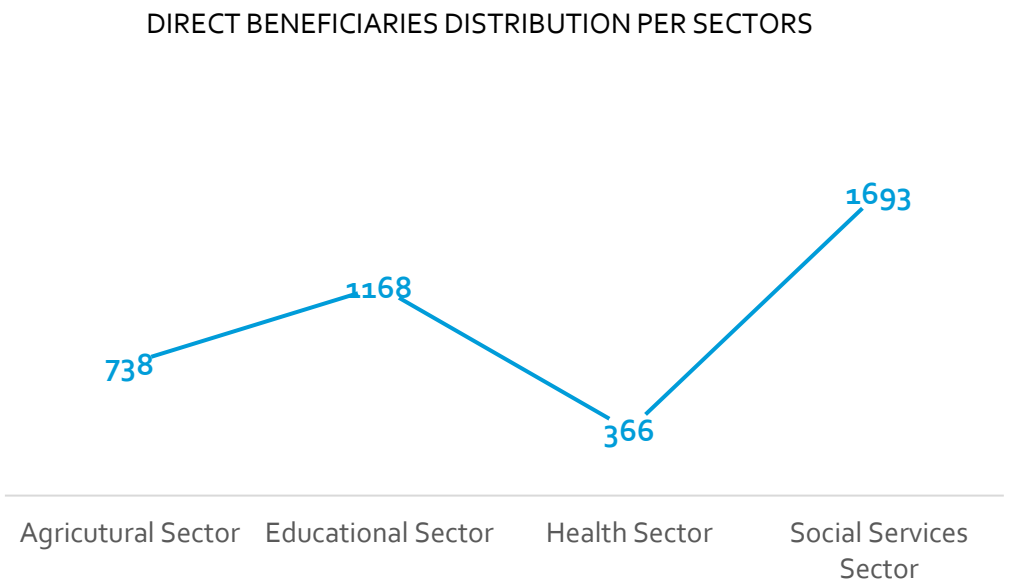
19 NGOs contracted to implement Cash for Work projects across West Bank and Jerusalem.

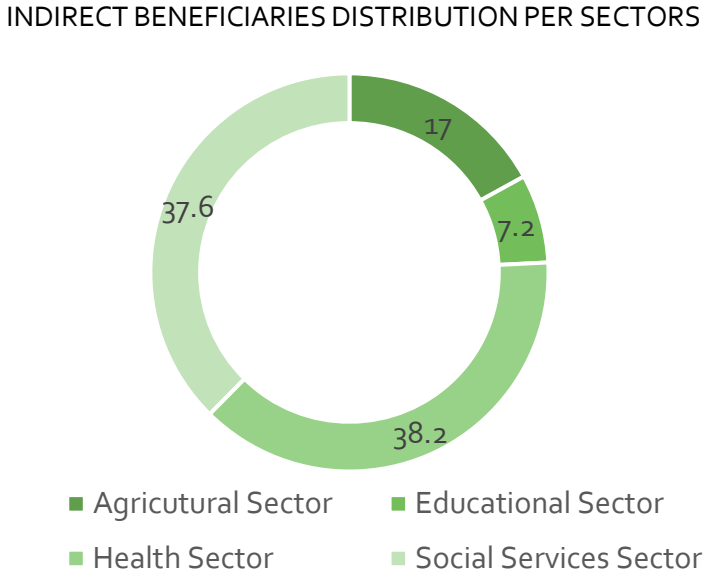
Family Impact

19,875 family members benefited indirectly through Cash for cash-for-work employment.

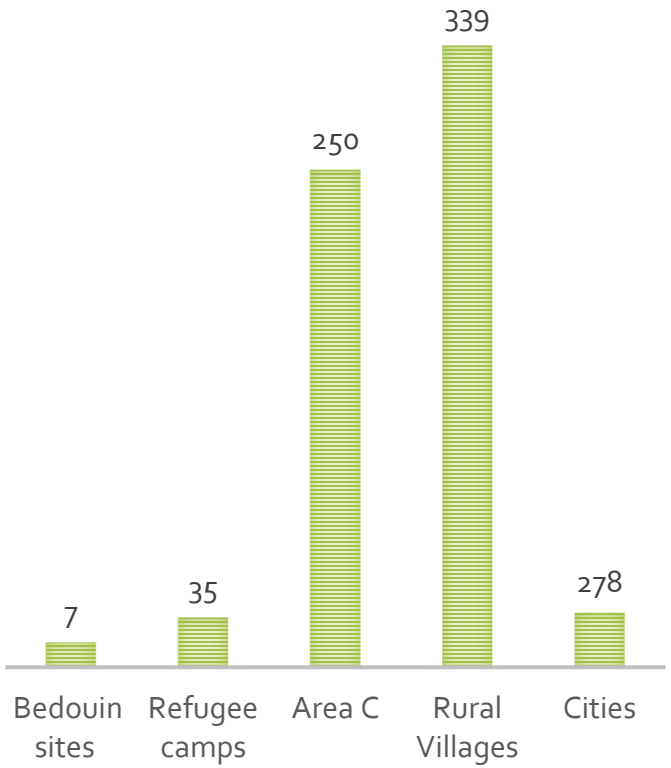
C4W Beneficiaries (Direct & Indirect)

- C4W implementation provided services for around 643,787 **indirect beneficiaries**, of which 361,783 are **females**.
- The number of **children** who received services from the project is 301,769.
- The project offered services for around 29,467 people with **disabilities**.

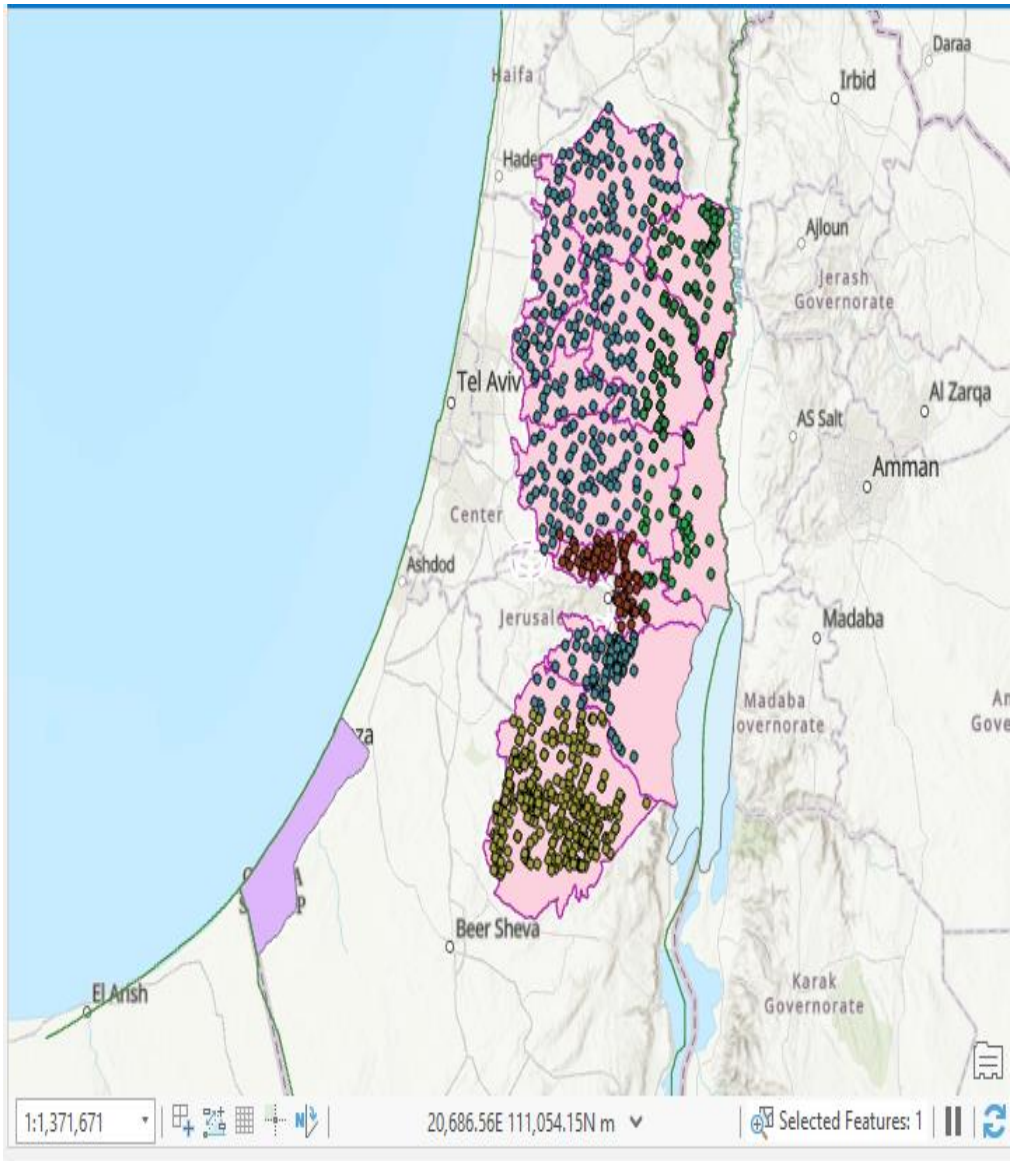




C4W Hosting NGO Distribution



Hosting organization	Number of Targeted locations in West Bank & Jerusalem
909	319



Component 4: Contingent Emergency Response Component (CERC)

This component is designed to provide an immediate and effective response in the event of an eligible crisis or emergency.

Total Beneficiaries

7,600 beneficiaries supported during the Gaza 2021 crisis.

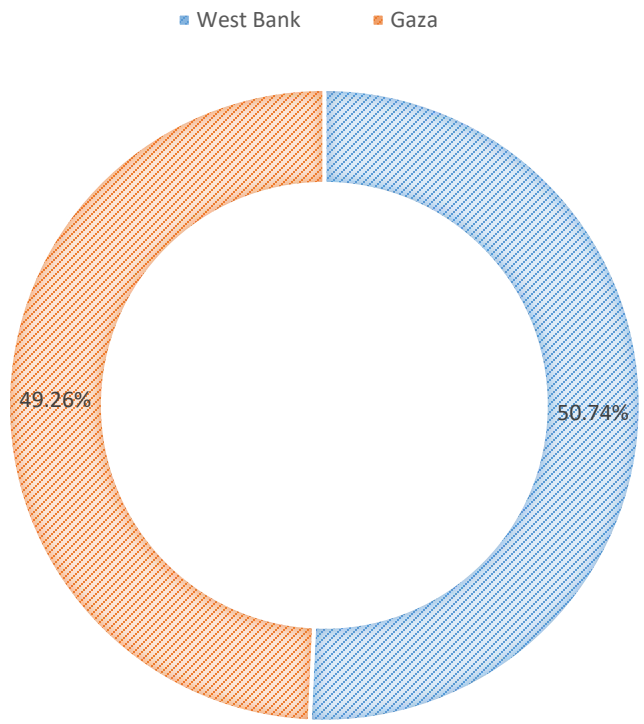
Funds Allocated

USD 1.64 million allocated to provide emergency assistance.

West Bank & Gaza Disbursement Distribution

- **West Bank: $24,535,689**
  - Component (1) Emergency Cash Transfer: $13,588,008
  - Component (2) C4W: $10,949,851

- **Gaza: $23,823,509**
  - Component (1) Emergency Cash Transfer: $22,185,555.
  - Component (4) CERC: $ 1,637,954.



III. Environment and Social Requirements

Environment and Social Requirements

Why environment and social plan is important?

- The project adhered to an Environmental and Social Plan (ESP), developed through a compliance study conducted by the Ministry of Finance PCU and an external auditor.
- A Stakeholder Engagement Plan (SEP) was created to ensure ongoing communication with stakeholders, including a Grievance Redress Mechanism (GRM) for two-way feedback.

- **Key Actions:**
  - Early identification of risks through continuous stakeholder engagement.
  - Promoting climate-resilient agriculture, improving clean water access, and reducing pollution through community-driven solutions.

Occupational Health and Safety- OHS

149 Inspections and site visits

8 consultation workshops

4 full-day OHS Training Session

Code of conduct

✓ Emerging Initiatives by some partners towards conducting specialized training, such as first aid training by PMRS.

✓Behavior change through corrective actions by partners to improve conditions working environment

Gender-based violence GBV Workshops And Training

- ✓1500 beneficiaries receive GBV training and awareness.
- ✓1000 beneficiaries involved in the 16-day campaign.
- ✓600 beneficiaries participated in Women's Day activities during March.

Complaints and Inquiries (GRM SYSTEM)

Complaints

Component	Complaints received	Complaint answered	Complaints solved
Component 1: cash transfer	132	132	All complaints were soloed within the accepted timeframe
Component 2: cash for work	404	404	

Inquires

Component	inquires received	inquires answered
Component 1: cash transfer	4314	4314
Component 2: cash for work	478	678

IV. SUCCESS STORIES

I am Dania Ma'ali, working at the Democratic Guidance Center located in the city of Beit Jala in the field of coordination. I coordinate projects, plan and implement various activities, and also write reports

Palestinian Youth Union /اتحاد الشباب الفلسطيني
22 Nov ·

"أنا دانية معالي اعمل في مركز التوجيه الديمقراطي الواقع في مدينة بيت جالا في مجال التنسيق، أقوم بتنسيق المشاريع وتخطيط النشاطات المختلفة وتنفيذها إضافة الى كتابة التقارير ...See more

19 1 comment 3 shares

Mothers School Society - جمعية مدرسة الأمهات
28 Nov ·

طلاب مدرسة قصرة في حصة عربي للتعريف بانواع التنوين .
ضمن مشروع المال مقابل العمل الذي ينفذه الصندوق الفلسطيني للتشغيل ووزارة العمل بإدارة وزارة المالية وبتمويل من البنك الدولي
#تشغيل_مؤقت

PEF-The Palestinian Employment Fund/الصندوق الفلسطيني للتشغيل الفلس

Students of Qusra School in an Arabic lesson.

I am Marcell Ramahi, happy to work with Y+ platform. I feel that I have gained and continue to gain practical experience by getting to know the policies of media institutions, and this is what I want to develop in my work as a short film content creator with the platform's team.

Palestinian Vision \ مؤسسة الرؤيا الفلسطينية Organization
24 Nov ·

"أنا مارسيل رمحي، سعيد بالعمل مع منصة واي بلس. أشعر أني أكتسبت وما زلت أكتسب الخبرات العملية من خلال التعرف على سياسات المؤسسات الإعلامية، وهذا ما أرغب في تطويره في عملي كصانع محتوى (أفلام قصيرة) مع طاقم المنصة."

مارسيل هو أحد المستفيدين من مشروع توظيف – المال مقابل العمل - الذي يتم تنفيذه من قبل مؤسسة الرؤيا الفلسطينية بالشراكة مع PEF-The Palestinian Employment Fund/الصندوق الفلسطيني للتشغيل ووزارة العمل بإدارة وزارة المالية وبتمويل من البنك الدولي.

#توظيف
#المال_مقابل_العمل
#الرؤيا_الفلسطينية

Al-Amal Ass. For The جمعية الامل الخيرية للصم Deaf
21 Nov ·

#ندعم_نطور_نؤهل
نشاط الحمضيات لأطفالنا الحلوين بروضة الامل النموذجية
باشراف الست مرفت ونائلة
PEF-The Palestinian Employment Fund/الصندوق الفلسطيني للتشغيل

The Citrus Activity for our sweet children at Al-Amal Model Kindergarten, supervised by Miss Mervat and Naela.

IV. KEY LESSONS LEARNED

- Political Commitment is Crucial
- Stakeholder Engagement greatly Enhances Effectiveness
- Coordinated Financing & Resources are Key to overcoming challenges
- Proactive Management of Technical & Administrative Challenges is Necessary
- Incorporating gender inclusion into our work has strengthened the overall impact
- And finally, Continuous Capacity Building Ensures Long-Term Success

THANK YOU...