

The Occupied Palestinian Territory: Socio-Economic Impact of the Israeli Occupation

Facts and Figures 2010



ESCWA

United Nations Economic and Social Commission for Western Asia

“The General Assembly reaffirms the right of the Palestinian people to self-determination, including the right to their Independent State of Palestine”

United Nations General Assembly Resolution 64/150, 26 March 2010

Sources and Acknowledgements

Unless otherwise indicated in the endnotes, the data included in this booklet were obtained from the Secretary-General's reports on the economic and social repercussions of the Israeli occupation on the living conditions of the Palestinian people in the occupied Palestinian territory, including Jerusalem, and of the Arab population in the occupied Syrian Golan (2010, A/65/72-E/2010/13), (2009, A/64/77-E/2009/13), and (2008, A/64/74-E/2008/13).

Introduction

The United Nations Economic and Social Commission for Western Asia (ESCWA) monitors the social and economic conditions in the occupied Palestinian territory and, at the request of the Economic and Social Council and the General Assembly, prepares the Secretary-General's "Report on the economic and social repercussions of the Israeli occupation on the living conditions of the Palestinian people in the occupied Palestinian territory, including East Jerusalem, and the Arab population in the occupied Syrian Golan".

The combination of intensified closures and sanctions imposed by Israel over four decades of occupation and the Israeli attack on Gaza in the winter of 2008-2009, "Operation Cast Lead", has led to a measurable deepening of the socio-economic crisis in the occupied Palestinian territory. Israel imposed additional restrictions on the movement of goods and people into and out of the Gaza Strip, thereby causing severe shortages of basic commodities, including food, electricity and fuel. Moreover, increased restrictions on the operations of humanitarian agencies hindered the delivery of humanitarian aid in both the Gaza Strip and the West Bank.

Economic, social and public health indicators reveal adverse living conditions, social and spatial dismemberment and growing despair. Poverty rates and humanitarian needs in the occupied Palestinian territory can be primarily attributed to the Israeli closure system, which restricts Palestinian access to health and education services, employment and social networks. Additionally, Israeli settlements, the confiscation of land and the construction of the wall in the West Bank, which violate the Geneva Conventions and other norms of international law, isolate occupied East Jerusalem, dissect the West Bank into dozens of enclaves and curtail normal economic and social life.

By highlighting the relevant facts and figures, this booklet illustrates the adverse conditions faced by Palestinians residing in the occupied Palestinian territory, including East Jerusalem.



1. Use of Force:

Deaths, Injuries, Arbitrary Arrests and Detentions

"The General Assembly demands that Israel, the occupying Power, cease all practices and actions that violate the human rights of the Palestinian people, including the killing and injury of civilians, and that it respect human rights law and comply with its legal obligations in this regard."

United Nations General Assembly Resolution 64/94 of 19 January 2010

Israeli military use of force in the West Bank and Gaza Strip results in hundreds of Palestinian deaths and casualties every year.

71 Palestinians were killed by Israeli forces in the first 10 months of 2010, including 3 children.¹

1,254 Palestinians were injured by Israeli forces in the first 10 months 2010.²

5,847 Palestinians were detained by Israeli forces as of 31 October 2010, among whom 213 are held without charge or trial (administrative detainees).³

269 Palestinian children were reported to be in Israeli prisons in October 2010.⁴

12 children were shot whilst collecting building gravel near the border fence between Gaza Strip and Israel between 22 May and 14 October 2010.⁵

Administrative Detention

Administrative Detention is legal under Israeli law. On the basis of Military Order Number 1229 of 1988, military commanders are empowered to detain an individual for up to six months, which is extendable for unlimited additional six-month periods, without any charge or trial.



2. Renewed Displacement: Demolitions, Confiscations, Permits and Deportation

"No one shall be arbitrarily deprived of his property."

Article 17 of the Universal Declaration of Human Rights

The displacement of Palestinians continues within the occupied Palestinian territory as a result of the destruction of property, the confiscation of land and the revocation of residency permits, as well as occasional deportation.

Israeli authorities severely restrict construction by Palestinians in the West Bank and East Jerusalem by making it extremely difficult for them to obtain building permits. As a result, they are compelled to build without a permit in order to provide shelter for their families. Homes that are found to have been constructed without a permit are demolished by the Israeli military.

48 per cent of the Palestinian population in the West Bank and Gaza Strip are already refugees (from 1948 and 1967 wars).

Home Demolitions in the West Bank and the East Jerusalem⁶

Reason Given for the Demolition	2006	2007	2008	2009	2010 (until 30 August)	Total
No Permit	95	106	122	75	80	478
Military	318	43	37	No data	No data	398
Total	413	149	159	75	80	876

198 structures were demolished in the West Bank within the framework of Israeli collective punishment and land confiscation in 2010.⁷

20,194 Palestinians (at least) have been left homeless as a result of home demolitions since 2004.⁸

5,600 demolition orders were issued for structures built without a permit between 2000 and 2009 by the Israeli Civil Administration issued some in Area C.⁹

70 per cent of Area C is off-limits to Palestinian construction.¹⁰

3,500 families (at least) in the Gaza Strip are still displaced since January 2009 as a result of the Israeli military operation (December 2008 - January 2009), 200 of which continue living in tents or makeshift shelters without proper roofing, windows or doors.

The case of occupied East Jerusalem

The number of permits granted per year to Palestinians does not meet the existing demand for housing. The gap between housing needs based on population growth and the legally permitted construction is estimated to be at least 1,100 housing units per year. Consequently, 28 per cent of all Palestinian homes in East Jerusalem have been built in violation of Israeli zoning requirements. Based on population figures, this percentage is equivalent to some 60,000 Palestinians in East Jerusalem, who are at risk of having their homes demolished by the Israeli authorities.¹¹

363 Palestinian houses in East Jerusalem have been demolished since 2004, leaving 1,323 people homeless, of including 724 minors.¹²

31 Palestinian-owned structures in East Jerusalem have been demolished by the Israeli authorities during the first 9 months of 2010.¹³

23,378 dunums* of land in East Jerusalem were expropriated from the Palestinians since 1968.¹⁴

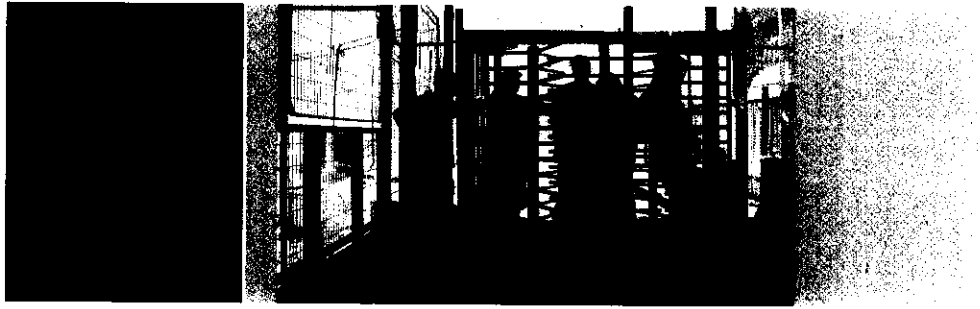
13,115 Jerusalem residency rights for Palestinians were revoked between 1967 and November 2009.¹⁵

1,030 Israeli demolition orders for Palestinian housing units were issued in the first 10 months in 2010. This will result in the displacement of more than **2,600** Palestinians including about **1,200** children.¹⁶

13 per cent of the land in East Jerusalem is zoned for Palestinian construction.

35 per cent of the land in East Jerusalem has been expropriated for the exclusive use of Israeli settlements.

* 1 dunum = 1,000 square metres



3. Mobility Restrictions, Walls and Closures

The imposition by Israel of a comprehensive closure regime is the main cause of deteriorating social and economic conditions in the West Bank and Gaza Strip. External closure consists of the control of crossings into and out of the West Bank and Gaza Strip, thereby sealing off these areas from Israel and the rest of the world.

Internal closure regime in the West Bank consist of the use of such physical obstacles as earth mounds, trenches, roadblocks, concrete blocks, barbed wire, gates, restricted roads and manned checkpoints. In addition, the separation wall being built in the West Bank affects hundreds of communities and isolates the West Bank from East Jerusalem.

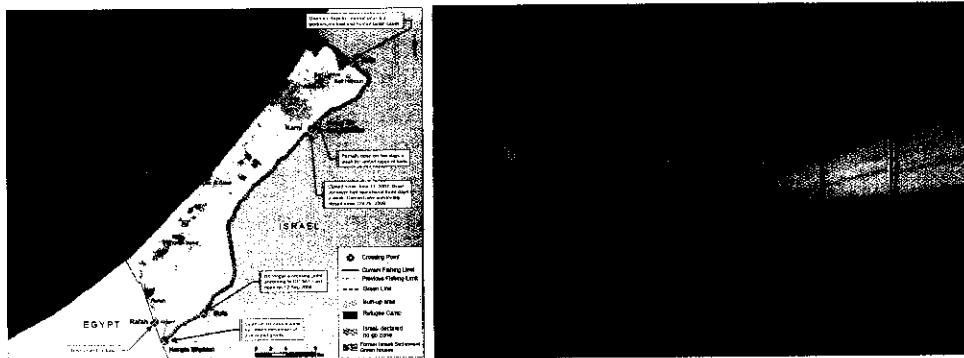
The near total closure of the Gaza Strip since June 2007 represents one of the most severe closure policies implemented by the Israeli authorities.

a. Gaza Strip: Blockade and “No-Go Zones”

“The General Assembly calls upon Israel, the occupying Power, to cease its imposition of prolonged closures and economic and movement restrictions, including those amounting to a blockade on the Gaza Strip, and, in this regard, to fully implement the Agreement on Movement and Access and the Agreed Principles for the Rafah Crossing, both of 15 November 2005.”

United Nations General Assembly Resolution 64/94 of 19 January 2010

In June 2007, Israel further intensified border closures and restrictions on access of goods and people to and from the Gaza Strip, thereby imposing almost total closure and isolation of the territory. This isolation resulted in shortages of



food, medical and relief items, spare parts for critical health, water sanitation installations and raw materials for Gaza's commerce and industry.

This policy remained in place after "Operation Cast" Lead, in winter 2008 - 2009, severely hampering relief and reconstruction efforts in the Gaza Strip. However, in June 2010, after the 'flotilla raid', Israel eased the blockade, yet the restrictions and their impact remain severe.

The Gaza Flotilla Raid

On 31 May 2010, Israeli forces intercepted the humanitarian aid flotilla bound for Gaza. Nine people were killed and many others injured. The United Nations fact-finding mission came to the conclusion that "The conduct of the Israeli military and other personnel towards the flotilla passengers was not only disproportionate to the occasion but demonstrated levels of totally unnecessary and incredible violence. It betrayed an unacceptable level of brutality. Such conduct cannot be justified or condoned on security or any other grounds. It constituted a grave violation of human rights law and international humanitarian law."

A/HRC/15/21, Article 264 - Report of the international fact-finding mission to investigate violations of international law, including international humanitarian and human rights law, resulting from the Israeli attacks on the flotilla of ships carrying humanitarian assistance.

3,569 truckloads imported in September 2010, as opposed to 5,177 in August (30 per cent decrease), partially due to the more limited opening of the crossings due to Jewish and Muslim holidays.¹⁷

8.2 million litres of industrial fuel to operate the Gaza Power Plant entered Gaza during September 2010, as opposed to the 13 million litres needed to operate the plant at full capacity.¹⁸

3,500 destroyed homes, 2,900 severely damaged homes, and those lightly damaged during the Israeli military offensive of December 2008 and January 2009 have yet to be reconstructed for the most part, due to the ban on the import of building materials.¹⁹

7,500 planned housing units, intended to cater to the Gaza Strip's rapidly expanding population, await construction due to the ban.²⁰

\$268 million in total damages, as a result of "Operation Cast" Lead, fail to be recovered due to the restriction of key inputs from entering through commercial channels.²¹

46 per cent of agricultural land and 17 per cent of Gaza Strip's territory is off limits to Palestinians due to Israeli restrictions to areas located up to **1,500 metres** from the fence dividing Gaza and Israel.²²

12 per cent increase in the Consumer Price Index for vegetables in the Gaza Strip since the blockade, similarly to many other food items.²³

The monthly average of truckloads during the period of July-October 2010 (after Israel eased the blockade) remains at **65 per cent below** the equivalent figure before the imposition of the blockade.²⁴

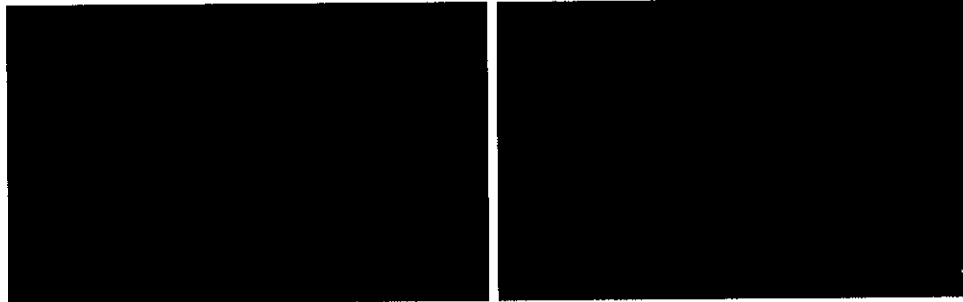
3 per cent of construction plan projects of the United Nations Relief and Works Agency (UNRWA) for Gaza have been approved by Israeli authorities.²⁵

85 out of 359 requested truckloads of restricted building materials needed for approved UNRWA projects have entered Gaza by the end of October 2010.²⁶

3 nautical miles is the limitation for Gaza sea in which fishermen are allowed to fish since 2009.

Approximately 1,000 tunnels made for smuggling goods from Egypt have largely sustained the Gaza economy, and employ thousands of people. The tunnels allow for the supply of a wide range of goods otherwise unavailable, including food, livestock, electric appliances, furniture, clothes and fuel, mostly at lower prices (and quality) than those previously imported from Israel.

Up to 300 of those tunnels were still functional by September 2010, although not all operate at the same time.²⁷



b. The Separation Wall in the West Bank

"The General Assembly acknowledges the advisory opinion of the International Court of Justice of 9 July 2004 on the Legal Consequences of the Construction of a Wall in the Occupied Palestinian Territory, including in and around East Jerusalem."*

United Nations General Assembly Resolution ES-10/14 of 2 August 2004

In 2002, Israel decided to build a wall that separates the West Bank from Israel. However, its planned route isolates East Jerusalem from the West Bank, as well as West Bank communities from each other, thereby fragmenting families, social and economic structures and restricting freedom of access and movement. By February 2010, **58 per cent of the wall** was constructed, and a further **10 percent** was under construction.

The length of the wall will be **723 km** when completed, more than twice the length of the 320 km Green Line (the internationally recognized boundary between the West Bank and Israel).

87 per cent of the completed wall will lie within the occupied Palestinian territory.

10 per cent of the West Bank is isolated in the closed areas between the wall and the Green Line.

7,800 Palestinians lived in the closed areas between the wall and the Green Line in June 2010.²⁸

** The advisory opinion of the International Court of Justice of 9 July 2004 established that the sections of the Wall, which ran inside the West Bank, including East Jerusalem, together with the associated gate and permit regime, violate Israel's obligations under international law.*

33,000 Palestinians will be stranded between the wall and the Green Line upon the completion of the wall, in addition to the majority of the Palestinian residents of East Jerusalem.²⁹

4,929 hectares of Palestinian land have been confiscated for the construction of the wall.

80 per cent of non-resident Palestinians who formerly worked the land in the closed area are without permits to gain access to their land on the other side of the wall.

The number of permits issued to Palestinian farmers to access the 'Seam Zone' in the northern West Bank between 2006 and mid-2009 sharply decreased.³⁰

33 out of 66 gates on the wall are open to Palestinian use, but only for those who hold a special permit from the Israeli military. The gates available for Palestinian use are open only part of the day.

85 per cent of the total Israeli settler population in the West Bank and East Jerusalem lies on the "Israeli" side of the planned route of the wall.³¹

c. Wall Around East Jerusalem

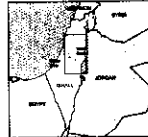
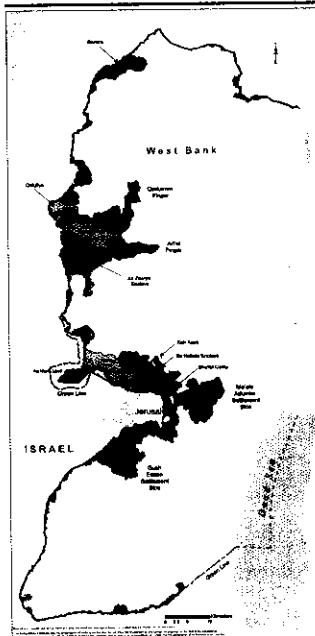
"The Security Council determines that all legislative and administrative measures and actions taken by Israel, the occupying Power, which have altered or purport to alter the character and status of the Holy City of Jerusalem, and in particular the recent "basic law" on Jerusalem, are null and void and must be rescinded forthwith."

United Nations General Security Council Resolution 478 of 20 August 1980

Israel has largely completed the construction of a **168-km section of the wall** through East Jerusalem.

50,000 Jerusalem ID holders (approximately) live within the municipal boundaries but left on the "West Bank" side of the wall.³²

140,000 people (at least) living in the Jerusalem governorate, in communities historically connected to Jerusalem, are now physically separated by the wall.³³



Area Affected

The Barrier's total length is 709 km, more than twice the length of the 1949 Armistice Line (Green Line) between the West Bank and Israel. The total area located between the Barrier and the Green Line is 8.5 % of the West Bank, including East Jerusalem and Hebron's Land.

When completed, approximately 15% of the Barrier will be constructed on the Green Line or in Israel with 85 % inside the West Bank.

Populations Affected

If the Barrier is completed based on the current route:

Approximately 38,000 Palestinians including West Bank 33 cities in 34 communities will be located between the Barrier and the Green Line.

The majority of Palestinians with East Jerusalem ID cards will reside between the Barrier and the Green Line. However, Palestinian communities inside the current municipal boundaries, Fall al-Baqa and Shu'fat Camp, are separated from East Jerusalem by the Barrier.

Approximately 128,000 Palestinians will be surrounded by the Barrier on three sides. These comprise 23 communities, the Badona and Baka areas, and the city of Qalqilya.

Approximately 20,000 Palestinians in 8 communities in the Al-Zuhayir and Bir Nabala Enclaves will be surrounded on four sides by the Barrier, with a tunnel or road connection to the rest of the West Bank.

Barrier Route

Completed (413 km or 58.3 %)

Under construction (173 km or 24.2 %)

Planned (223 km or 31.5 %)

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 Date: July 2009
 For more information, visit: www.unhcr.org



84,000 Palestinians living in neighboring West Bank villages that were once closely connected to occupied East Jerusalem are also excluded by the wall.

50 per cent drop of inpatient caseloads in occupied East Jerusalem hospitals as a result of patients being denied access by the wall over the past years.

d. Closures Policies and Measures in the West Bank

"Everyone has the right to freedom of movement and residence within the borders of each state."

Article 13 of the Universal Declaration of Human Rights

60 per cent of the West Bank is classified as Area C, where the Israeli authorities exercise exclusive and direct control on security and law enforcement matters, as well as over planning and construction.³⁴

150,000 Palestinians live in Area C.³⁵

585 obstacles blocking internal Palestinian movement and access throughout the West Bank were mapped, including permanently staffed checkpoints, partial checkpoints (staffed on an ad-hoc basis) as well as roadblocks, earth mounds, earth walls, road gates, road barriers, and trenches.³⁶

18 per cent of the West Bank has been declared "closed military zones" since 1967.

3 per cent of the West Bank is largely inaccessible to Palestinians, being located within the outer limits of 149 Israeli settlements and industrial zones.

13 per cent of the West Bank is designated as 'nature reserves' by the Israeli authorities, where any land use is prohibited.³⁷

The vast majority of Palestinians are prohibited from crossing checkpoints to the Jordan River Valley areas of the West Bank with their private vehicles, unless they have obtained a special permit.³⁸

50 days of general closure of the West Bank were imposed by the Israeli authorities between April 2009 and the end of March 2010 due to Israeli holidays (43 days) and 'security alerts' (7 days).³⁹

Thousands of incidents of delayed or denied access of United Nations staff have been reported, which significantly hindered the delivery of food aid and medicines and the work of mobile health-care and food distribution teams.





4. Settlements and Settler Violence

"The Security Council determines that the policy and practices of Israel in establishing settlements in the Palestinian and other Arab territories occupied since 1967 have no legal validity and constitute a serious obstruction to achieving a comprehensive, just and lasting peace in the Middle East."

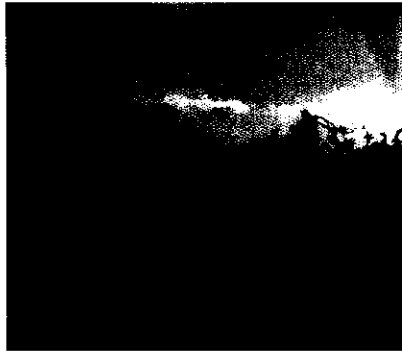
—United Nations Security Council Resolution 446 of 22 March 1979

Israeli settlements are linked to each other and to Israel by an extensive road network. Palestinians for the most part are either prevented from using these roads or have only restricted access to them. The roads have also fragmented the West Bank into a series of isolated enclaves that Palestinians must access via alternative roads, checkpoints, bridges and tunnels that circumvent the roads reserved for settlers.

Although the Government of Israel announced a 10-month settlement freeze in September 2009, this freeze excluded East Jerusalem. In addition, Israeli settlers 'made up' for the 10 months freeze in the two months following the end of the freeze. **1,629 housing units** were being constructed in **63 settlements**, (46 of them east the Separation Wall and 17 on the western side of it) in November 2010, less than two months after the expiration of the settlement freeze order in 26 September 2010. This is compared to **1,888 housing units** constructed in all of 2009.⁴⁰

496,200 Israeli settlers live in 133 settlements and 99 "outposts" in the occupied Palestinian territory (301,200 in the West Bank and 195,000 in East Jerusalem).

22 incidents per month of Israeli settler violence leading to Palestinian casualties have been recorded between January-September 2010.⁴¹



3,700 olive trees were burned, uprooted, killed with chemicals or otherwise vandalized in October 2010 – the harvest season – by Israeli settlers.⁴²

3,000 dunums of cultivated land were set on fire by Israeli settlers in one incident in August 2010, thus undermining the livelihoods of some **100 Palestinian families** from the Beit Furik village (Nablus).⁴³

The area within the municipal boundaries of settlements, which in most cases does not coincide with the outer limits, was declared as a “closed military area” for Palestinians (the order does not apply to Israelis and foreign nationals).⁴⁴

The case of Burin

“At the entrance to the village of Burin, fire has turned an entire olive grove into a grey, charred landscape. It was ravaged on 26 July 2010, after settlers went on a day of rampage, setting ablaze several fields in this village near Nablus. According to Yesh Din-Volunteers for Human Rights, the settlers reacted to the demolition of a structure by the Israeli army in an illegal outpost earlier on that day. “The settlers implement a policy which they have termed the ‘price tag’”, says Firas Alami, field researcher for Yesh Din. “Their goal is to create a price for each demolition in an outpost, causing Israeli authorities to think twice before carrying them out.” Outposts are illegal under both international and Israeli law, but Palestinian farmers are paying the price for any attempt to evacuate them. Even though the field is in full view of the Israeli soldiers manning the Hawara checkpoint, some 20 metres away, Yesh Din and the villagers say the army did nothing to stop the settlers.

Burin is located in Area C of the West Bank (under full Israeli control) in a valley directly between two mountains, on top of which sit two Israeli settlements, Yizhar and Bracha. Ali 'Id, the head of the village council, says that settlers have caused the loss of 16,000 trees in Burin over the past years, and that violence flares each autumn during olive harvest.⁴⁵



5. Impact of Occupation: Key Social and Economic Indicators

a. Economic Indicators

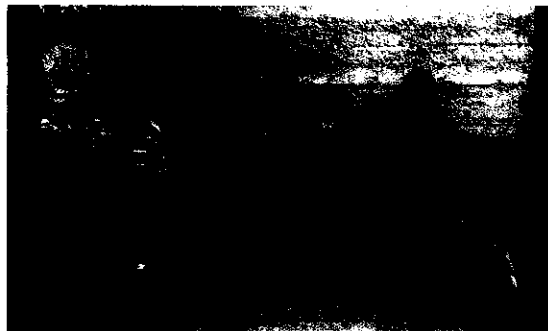
4.07 per cent increase in the Overall Consumer Price Index for the occupied Palestinian territory in October 2010 compared with October 2009.⁴⁶

\$339 is the gross domestic product (GDP) per capita in the occupied Palestinian territory in 2009.⁴⁷



Zero export activity was recorded due to restrictions since the blockade. Exceptions to these export restrictions during the last winter season presented little change with only 2 per cent of strawberries and 25 per cent of cut flowers of the total pre-blockade potential for export.⁴⁸

1,365 industrial establishments throughout the Gaza Strip were operational during August-September 2010, **35 per cent** of the equivalent figures in June 2007, before the blockade was imposed.⁴⁹



b. Poverty and Unemployment

25 per cent unemployment in the occupied Palestinian territory (excluding East Jerusalem) in 2009 (18 per cent in the West Bank and 39 per cent in the Gaza Strip).⁵¹

67 per cent of the unemployed in the occupied Palestinian territory are **young people**.

80 per cent of the population of Gaza relies on international aid organization's support for sustenance.

90 per cent of Gaza's 4,000 fishermen are now considered to be either **poor** (with \$100-190 income per month) or **very poor** (less than \$100 per month).⁵²

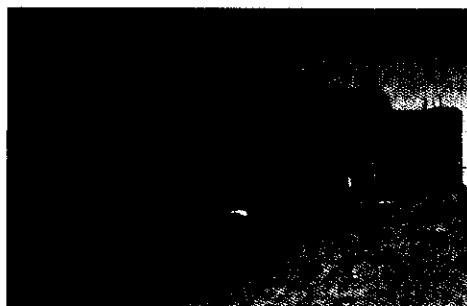
133,000 new jobs each year will need to be created in the occupied Palestinian territory between 2010 and 2015 to reduce the unemployment rate to the average rate in the Middle East and North Africa.⁵³

The construction sector in the Gaza Strip, which before the blockade employed approximately 50,000 people, and now only employs around 1,500.⁵⁴

c. Food Security and Health

38 per cent of Palestinians in the occupied Palestinian territory are food insecure: **25 per cent** (625,200 people) in the West Bank and **60.5 per cent** (973,600 people) in the Gaza Strip.

488,250 people are vulnerable to food insecurity (269,300 persons in the West Bank and 218,950 persons in the Gaza Strip).



61 per cent of farmer households are food insecure in Gaza and are reliant on food assistance from humanitarian agencies.⁵⁵

2,500 tons of cooking gas out of 6,000 demanded in the Gaza Strip is permitted to enter.⁵⁶

110 of 470 medicines considered essential, such as chemotherapy and haemophilia drugs, were unavailable in Gaza by the end of May 2010.⁵⁷

110 of the 700 essential medical disposable items are also out of stock.⁵⁸

440 cases of delayed or denied access on Israeli for Palestine Red Crescent Society ambulances were recorded during 2009.⁵⁹

40 per cent of Gaza's inhabitants are not connected to a sewage collection system, where raw sewage discharged into the river Wadi Gaza, which snakes through urban areas, jeopardizes the health of the communities living on its banks.⁶⁰

Gaza is suffering from an **acute electricity crisis**. The power supply is interrupted for seven hours a day on average. The consequences for public services, especially the primary health-care system, are devastating. The power cuts pose a serious risk to the treatment of patients – and to their very lives. Hospitals rely on generators to cope with the daily blackouts. It takes two to three minutes for a generator to begin operating, and during that time electronic devices do not function. As a result, artificial respirators must be reactivated manually, dialysis treatment is disrupted and surgery is suspended as operating theatres are plunged into darkness.⁶¹

Nismah, a two-year-old girl from Gaza died while waiting for an urgent referral to an Israeli hospital on 16 October. She was suffering from leukemia and had previously received treatment at several hospitals in Israel and East Jerusalem.

The last request for urgent treatment was left unanswered for eight days, and when the Israeli authorities finally approved the request, she was too weak to travel. She died two days later.

Nismah's case illustrates the limited possibilities of cancer treatment in the Gaza Strip. Each month about 10 percent of referrals are patients suffering from cancer; most of them have to leave Gaza as cancer treatment is almost completely unavailable.

OCHA, The Humanitarian Monitor, October 2010, p. 10

d. Natural Resources, Water and Environment

62 litres and 52 litres of potable water are consumed on average, per person per day, in the West Bank and Gaza Strip respectively, as of January 2008.⁶²

Only 57 per cent of water pumped into the network is utilized mainly due to leakages that demand major rehabilitation of the water network.



Without the building materials banned by Israel, the continued breakdown of sanitation facilities in Gaza is leading to untreated sewage reaching agricultural lands and sea.⁶³

50 to 80 million litres of untreated and partially-treated waste water has been dumped every day from the Gaza Strip into the sea since January 2008, owing largely to severely compromised treatment capacity in the Gaza Strip. This raw sewage is harming marine life and contaminating fish for human consumption all along the coast.⁶⁴

Water from approximately 85 per cent of water wells in Gaza Strip is not suitable for drinking due to components of alkalinity, and increased concentration of salts (1,000 mg/l) and nitrates.⁶⁵

The 4.5 billion US dollars pledged by donor countries over a year ago are not being put to use due to the closure in the Gaza Strip. Large-scale projects, such as the construction of a desalination plant, which must be undertaken to meet water-supply needs without further exposing the aquifer, are on hold.⁶⁶

100 cubic metres per hour is the maximum amount of water extracted from Palestinian wells allowed by the Israelis. They are also preventing the Palestinians from drilling new wells, and the depth of approved wells should be no more than 140 metres.⁶⁷

70 Palestinian villages suffer from contamination in their crops and water sources due to untreated waste water from nearby Israeli settlements.

200 Palestinian communities (215,000 inhabitants), are not connected to running water networks and are forced to buy water from private suppliers, using up to 20 per cent of their income for this purpose.

A quarter of the water ration per capita for Israelis is allocated to the Palestinian: 123 litres per person daily for West Bank Palestinians in contrast to 544 litres for Israelis. Some Palestinians are surviving on as little as **10 to 15 litres** of water a day.

"The General Assembly also calls upon Israel, the occupying Power, to cease all actions harming the environment, including the dumping of all kinds of waste materials in the Occupied Palestinian Territory, including East Jerusalem, and in the occupied Syrian Golan, which gravely threaten their natural resources, namely water and land resources, and which pose and environmental, sanitation and health threat to the civilian population."

United Nations General Assembly Resolution 64/185 of 29 January 2010



e. Youth and Education

41.3 per cent of the total population in the occupied Palestinian territory is **under the age of fifteen**.⁶⁸

1,113,802 school students were enrolled in the 2009-2010 scholastic year in the occupied Palestinian half of whom are females in 2010.⁶⁹

100 additional schools are needed by UNRWA to cope with population growth in Gaza.⁷⁰



The number of students in UNRWA schools by the start of the coming academic year will have increased by **15,000 above the classroom capacity** since the start of the blockade in 2007.⁷¹

10 schools in the West Bank are under the threat of demolition due to the absence of permits.⁷²

22 schools in the West Bank have been diagnosed as unsafe or unhygienic facilities by the Humanitarian Country Team, and **another 5 schools** as under ongoing intimidation by Israeli settlers.⁷³

95 per cent of children (10-17 years) used computers in **2009**.⁷⁴

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³ B'tselem, http://www.btselem.org/english/statistics/Detainees_and_Prisoners.asp, B'tselem Statistics on Palestinians in the custody of the Israeli security forces, http://www.btselem.org/english/statistics/Minors_in_Custody.asp, B'TSELEM Statistics.

⁴ Urgent Appeal UA 4/10, Defence for Children International/Palestine Section, 16 October 2010, Shooting of children collecting building gravel.

⁵ B'tselem, http://www.btselem.org/english/Punitive_Demolitions/Statistics.asp, http://www.btselem.org/english/Planning_and_Building/Statistics.asp, <http://www.btselem.org/english/Razing/Statistics.asp>.

⁶ Ibid.

⁷ Palestinian Central Bureau of Statistics (PCBS), http://www.pcbs.gov.ps/Portals/_pcbs/PressRelease/Housing2010_E.pdf.

⁸ B'tselem, <http://www.btselem.org/> - as punitive measure, data available until 2004, military 04-10 and excludes Cast Lead, permits West Bank and East Jerusalem only (06-10, 04-10, respectively) .

⁹ Office for the Coordination of Humanitarian Affairs (OCHA), The Humanitarian Monitor, October 2010, p. 7 – Area C comprises areas in the West Bank which fall under Israeli civil and military control under the Oslo Accords.

¹⁰ OCHA, West Bank Movement and Access, June 2010, p. 29.

¹¹ Ibid. p. 28-29.

¹² B'tselem, http://www.btselem.org/english/Planning_and_Building/East_Jerusalem_Statistics.asp.

¹³ OCHA, The Humanitarian Monitor, September 2010, p. 4.

¹⁴ B'tselem, http://www.btselem.org/english/Jerusalem/Land_Expropriation_Statistics.asp.

¹⁵ B'tselem, http://www.btselem.org/english/Jerusalem/Revocation_Statistics.asp.

¹⁶ PCBS, http://www.pcbs.gov.ps/Portals/_pcbs/PressRelease/Housing2010_E.pdf.

¹⁷ OCHA, The Humanitarian Monitor, September 2010, p. 8.

¹⁸ Ibid. p. 9-10.

¹⁹ OCHA contribution to Secretary-General's reports on the economic and social repercussions of the Israeli occupation on the living conditions of the Palestinian people in the occupied Palestinian territory, including Jerusalem, and of the Arab population in the occupied Syrian Golan (2010, A/65/72-E/2010/13) .

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