

Emergency Response in the West Bank

Situation Report – February and March 2025

Situation Overview

A major escalation of violence in the northern West Bank, initiated at the end of January, led to the displacement of over 40,000 people and caused extensive damage to infrastructure in several urban centers. As of mid-April 2025, these operations were still ongoing. New restrictions on movements and additional security checks at existing checkpoints introduced end of January and early February were still in place by mid-April 2025, complicating access to most of the villages in the West Bank.

Food security indicators continue to worsen. According to the World Food Programmes, 700,000 Palestinians across the West Bank needed food assistance in 2024 (+100% from 2023). A survey from World Vision found that 3 in 4 families is now below the deep poverty line and unable to cover their most essential costs.

Health care services continue to be severely affected. Many facilities have reduced operating hours due to salary cuts and the ongoing fiscal crisis impacting the Palestinian Authority. More than 50% of all health clinics in the West Bank are completely out-of-stock of essential medicines, forcing communities to seek care at governorate hospitals or in the private sector. For families already struggling due to the economic crisis, these additional costs are often unaffordable, resulting in delays in accessing necessary health care.

Access to education has also been significantly disrupted. According to a major survey conducted by World Vision, 8% of families reported that at least one child had dropped out of school due to economic hardship. In addition, both caregivers and children cited safety concerns—either on the way to school or at school itself—as a reason for frequent absences.



People Reached

From October 2024 (6 months)

 **193,000** people reached directly

 **110,000** children reached directly

 **142** villages supported

From October 2023 (18 months)

 **415,000** people reached directly

 **230,000** children reached directly

 **447** villages / communities supported

Response Updates

Strengthening Community Protection

Since 7 October 2023, communities across the West Bank have experienced an unprecedented surge in violence, leading to numerous casualties and widespread destruction. The presence of hundreds of checkpoints, barriers, and obstacles has made movement nearly impossible, even in emergencies. This has severely hampered emergency services, including firefighters and ambulances, preventing them from responding quickly. In some cases, they have even been targeted.

To enhance community protection, World Vision is equipping first responders and local volunteers with life-saving tools, emergency preparedness materials and essential skills.

In February and March 2025:

- **51 Lifesaving tools** (including firefighting equipment and first aid kits) were provided to 12 villages.
- In partnership with Civil Defence, members of the **local emergency committees** from 13 villages were trained on how to use life-saving equipment to respond to emergencies.
- A group of **80 women** from various villages were also trained on emergency response and preparedness.
- The rehabilitation of **4 safe community spaces** started. These spaces are used by communities to prepare and coordinate emergency responses.

From October 2023:

- **131 community safe spaces** built or rehabilitated, and equipped.
- 447 village councils, 13 Civil Defence centres, 49 Primary Health Care Centres supported with **life-saving material**.
- **8 fire-fighting trailers** provided to local volunteers.



Local volunteers use material provided by World Vision to put out a fire following violence in a village of the central West Bank.



A farmer is harvesting olives in the north of the West Bank.

Emergency Aid

Many families have lost everything due to violence or forced displacement. As the economic crisis deepens, nearly 1 in 3 jobs has been lost in the West Bank, leaving countless families without a source of income. Now, 18 months into the crisis, many families are struggling to afford their next meal.

To respond, World Vision is providing direct assistance (in-kind support and vouchers) to vulnerable households and families affected by food insecurity, violence and forced displacement.

In February and March 2025:

- **810 people** from vulnerable families were supported through multipurpose voucher distribution so they can buy food or essential items (such as clothes) they need.
- **100 farmers** received vouchers to buy tools and agricultural materials to support their livelihood.
- **12,000 people** received non-food items (emergency kits including food, water, hygiene products, cooking tools and clothes) following their displacement.
- In total, **US\$180,000** worth of vouchers and items were distributed to extremely vulnerable families.

From October 2023:

- **27,000 people received** in-kind donations, cash, or vouchers, enabling them to purchase food, hygiene items, warm clothing and other essential goods.
- **US\$450,000 was distributed** (cash, vouchers or in-kind support).



A girl is taking part in a mental health and psychosocial support session for adolescents in the West Bank.

Mental Health

Since 7 October 2023, many children in the West Bank have faced a grim reality. Schools frequently close, and the constant threat of violence looms over daily life. Checkpoints have increased, and economic hardship has worsened, forcing many children to stay at home and isolating them from friends, education, and daily routines. The resulting stress, anxiety, and trauma pose long-term risks to their mental health and development.

Checkpoints have multiplied, and economic hardship has deepened, confining many children to their homes, isolating them from friends, education, and normal routines. This stress, anxiety, and trauma pose long-term risks to their mental health and development.

In response, World Vision is delivering mental health and psychosocial support (MHPSS) for children, parents and caregivers.

In February and March 2025:

- **840 adults and 1,100 children** received mental health and psychosocial support.
- **3,150 children** took part in social and emotional learning sessions delivered through local children clubs (Makani clubs) to enhance their resilience and life skills.
- Close to **400 adolescents** took part in life skills programming to enhance their resilience and develop important life skills that will help them succeed in schools.
- **1,560 people** received information on mental health and where to access support services.
- **22 facilitators** were trained on psychosocial counselling for adolescents.
- The construction work of **11 safe play areas** for children started.

From October 2023:

- **76,000 people** received psychosocial support.

Access to Healthcare

The escalating violence and movement restrictions have isolated many villages from hospitals, leaving local health clinics as the only option for medical emergencies. Pregnant women, in particular, face serious challenges in accessing antenatal and postnatal care, causing widespread anxiety over the health of their unborn children.

To support communities, World Vision is strengthening primary health centres to improve emergency response and provide obstetric care.

In February and March 2025:

- **One Primary Health Clinic** used by 700 people was rehabilitated
- The rehabilitation work on **three primary health clinics** has started.
- **Portable ultrasounds** were delivered to 10 Primary Health Clinics
- The staff of these clinics received a refresher **training** on how to use these new material.

From October 2023:

- **92 clinics**, serving 106,000 people were rehabilitated and/or equipped.
- **34 mobile ultrasounds** and obstetric care equipment were provided to health clinics.



A doctor is treating a young child in a health clinic in the South of the West Bank.



A teacher is providing catch up classes for students who have been impacted by school closures in the West Bank.

Access to Safe Education

Schools in the West Bank have not been spared from violence. Hundreds of incidents have affected schools, teachers and students over the past year. Violence, movement restrictions and an ongoing fiscal crisis have resulted in schools operating only two days a week at best, during the 2023–2024 academic year, leading to significant learning losses and leaving students facing severe barriers as they attempt to return to school.

To respond, World Vision is improving school safety, emergency preparedness and psychosocial support (PSS) in education

In December 2024 and January 2025:

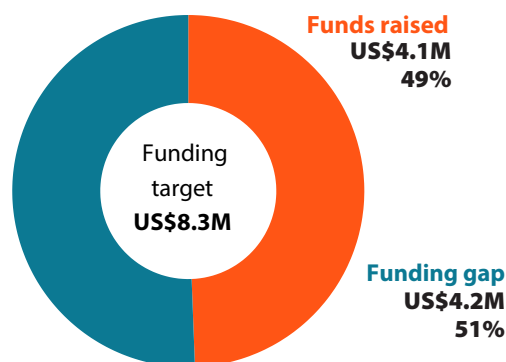
- **3,800 students** are currently enrolled and participating in remedial classes led by **220 trained teachers** to address learning losses.
- More than **500 teachers** were trained on how to provide psychosocial support and social and emotional learning in schools. Dozens of them also received a training on how to detect, identify and refer children with protection risks or experiencing psychological distress in schools.
- To strengthen their preparedness to emergencies, children from **17 schools** were trained on safe evacuation and secure lockdown procedures. Staff and students were also trained on how to use fire extinguishers, how to operate water pumps and sprinklers, and how to properly use first aid kits.
- The rehabilitation of **25 schools** started. Rehabilitation works are designed to enhance the physical safety and protective environment of the school, and to improve access for children with different forms of disabilities.

From October 2023 to November 2024:

- **160 schools** supported to enhance preparedness to incidents of violence and disasters

Funding

October 2024 -September 2025



We would like to thank the hundreds of thousands of generous child sponsors, donors, partners, and supporters whose contributions make this work possible:



For more information on the West Bank Emergency Response, please refer to our previous publication:
Situation Report - December 2024 January 2025 - Emergency Response in the West Bank

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