

TWO YEARS OF RESPONDING TO THE NEEDS OF THE MOST VULNERABLE FAMILIES AND CHILDREN IN THE WEST BANK



October 2023 - October 2025

Overview

Over the past two years, the humanitarian situation in the West Bank has worsened dramatically. Communities are facing ever-tightening restrictions on movement, rising levels of violence, and deepening economic hardship. What was already a fragile daily reality has become increasingly unbearable for many families, as essentials like food, clean water, shelter, and healthcare are getting harder to access.



Photo: A family displaced by the ongoing violence receives emergency support in the north of the West Bank (Credit: World Vision)

them 14,000 children – remain displaced. At the same time, alarmingly high levels of violence by armed civilians have driven a record number of communities from their land, creating a climate of fear and impunity that continues to devastate lives across the West Bank.

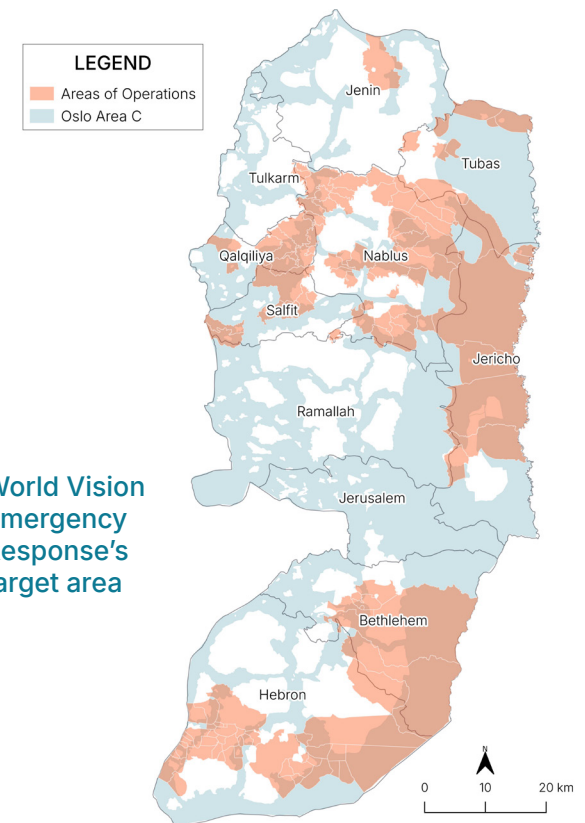
Communities across the West Bank have also been forced to contend with expanded road closures, a sharp increase in checkpoints, and

According to [OCHA](#), more than 1,000 people have lost their lives and 10,000 have been injured since October 2023, largely due to frequent and large-scale military operations across towns in the West Bank. In refugee camps such as Jenin, Tulkarem, and Nur Shams, these operations have forced 44,000 people to flee their homes. As of October 2025, an estimated 30,000 individuals – among

growing restrictions on movement between towns. At times, nearly 900 such obstacles have been recorded, with devastating consequences for employment, agricultural production, and supply chains. These restrictions have also delayed urgent medical referrals and severely disrupted access to education.

The Palestinian economy contracted sharply in both 2024 and 2025 – by an estimated 25–28% – driven

World Vision
Emergency
Response's
target area



largely by a steep decline in economic activity and employment, particularly due to the widespread loss of work permits in Israel and its settlements. This economic collapse has triggered a major surge in poverty, fuelling a rise in food insecurity. A significant number of families can no longer afford the most basic necessities, while [70% of them are frequently skipping meals](#) and at heightened risk of malnutrition.



Photo: A barrier that prevents access to a village in the south of the West Bank (Credit: World Vision)

Since October 2023, the Palestinian Authority has lost much of its financial income, leading to a severe liquidity crisis that has drastically curtailed its ability to pay civil servants' salaries. This, in turn, has had a serious impact on the provision of essential public services. Primary and secondary schools are now offering face-to-face education only three days a week at most, compared to the usual five. Making matters worse, most local health clinics are operating just one day a week and have extremely limited supplies of essential medicines. The crisis has been further deepened by the breakdown in cooperation between local banks and Israeli institutions, exacerbating the liquidity shortage for Palestinian authorities, businesses, and families alike.

In response to this escalating crisis, [World Vision](#) launched a multisectoral emergency response on October 13th, 2023:

Timeline →	Since October 2023	Year 2 of the response (October 2024 – September 2025)
People reached	1,060,000	582,000
US\$ spent	US\$ 15.8M	US\$ 6.3M

Key components of WVI's emergency response in the West Bank:

<p>Emergency Aid</p>	<p>Protection through Preparedness</p>	<p>Mental Health</p>	<p>Access to Healthcare</p>	<p>Access to Safe Education</p>
<p>Providing direct assistance, such as in-kind assistance and vouchers, to vulnerable households and families affected by food insecurity, violence, and forced displacement</p>	<p>Enhancing community protection by equipping first responders and local volunteers with lifesaving tools, emergency preparedness materials, and skills</p>	<p>Delivering psychosocial support services (PSS) to children, parents, and caregivers with the aim of addressing trauma and stress</p>	<p>Strengthening primary healthcare centres' capacity to respond to emergencies, with a focus on obstetric and emergency care</p>	<p>Ensuring continuity of education by strengthening the protective environment of schools, addressing learning loss, and integrating psychosocial support (PSS) services.</p>



Emergency Aid

Timeline →	Since October 2023	Year 2 of the response (October 2024 – September 2025)
People reached with multipurpose cash or voucher assistance	10,700	1,300
People supported with Non-Food Items	21,000	17,500
People reached with winter items	14,000	14,000
Total number of people supported with emergency aid ¹	49,000	32,500

The issue:

Many families in the West Bank have lost everything due to intensifying violence and ongoing forced displacement. As the economic crisis deepens, nearly 1 in 3 jobs have been lost, leaving both male and female-headed households without any stable source of income. Two years into the crisis, there is also [growing evidence of food insecurity](#) among families and children impacted by this crisis.



Photo: More than 44,000 people were displaced in the north of the West Bank. They often had to leave with nothing. (Credit: World Vision)

¹ Including people supported with cash and voucher assistance, non-food items and winter items.

Our Response:

From the outset, [World Vision International](#) has provided emergency assistance to families affected by violence and forced displacement in the West Bank through cash and voucher programmes, alongside the distribution of essential items such as cooking utensils, mattresses, hygiene kits, and clothing. Due to the extreme vulnerability of families impacted by arson and violence, this support was often delivered within 48 hours of an incident. From January 2025, emergency aid was also extended to hundreds of families displaced by major military operations in refugee camps in the northern West Bank, with support reaching these communities within 72 hours of displacement.

“Our house was destroyed during the last invasion of the camp. We had to leave with nothing.” Hala, 7-year-old girl, displaced from Jenin refugee camp

With the aim of addressing growing economic needs, thousands of vulnerable families affected by poverty and food insecurity were identified through partnerships with local village councils and other organizations. World Vision International used a gender-responsive approach to identify the beneficiaries, prioritizing pregnant and lactating women, women with toddlers or young children, as well as single mothers.



Photo: A distribution of blankets to vulnerable families in the West Bank (Credit: World Vision)

This support was scaled up during the winter of 2024-2025, providing vulnerable families with heating systems, blankets, warm clothes and fuel. Moreover, World Vision supported dozens of farmers who had lost their tools during the violence that disrupted the olive harvest, helping them resume the cultivation of their olive groves, which often represent their main source of livelihood.

“Our harvest was stolen along with our tools. Many of our trees were damaged. It was heart-breaking... we didn’t know how we were going to recover.” Sherin, a 41-year-old farmer from the north of the West Bank



Strengthening Protection

Timeline →	Since October 2023	Year 2 of the response (October 2024 – September 2025)
Villages supported	200	63
Firefighting trailers provided	12	8
Civil Defence centres supported	20	20
Community safe spaces built or rehabilitated	114	69

The Issue:

Since October 7th, 2023, communities across the West Bank have faced an unprecedented surge in violence, resulting in numerous casualties and widespread destruction. Homes have been set alight, while shops, crops, olive trees, and vehicles have been destroyed, dealing a severe blow to the livelihoods of thousands. The presence of hundreds of checkpoints, roadblocks, and other barriers has made movement nearly impossible – even in emergencies. This has also severely hindered the ability of emergency services – including firefighters and ambulance crews – to respond in a timely manner. In some instances, they have even been targeted while attempting to carry out their duties, further preventing them from fulfilling their life-saving work.



Photo: A firefighter tests new equipment provided by World Vision in the north of the West Bank (Credit: World Vision)

Our Response:

Since October 2023, [World Vision](#) has provided over US\$ 1.5 million in lifesaving tools to support local first responders. These included advanced first aid kits and firefighting equipment – such as ladders, fire beaters and fire extinguishers – which were distributed to 200 villages to enhance their capacity to prepare for and respond to emergencies. This support included the provision of 12 firefighting trailers that have allowed local volunteers to save lives on multiple occasions. Twenty Civil Defence centres were also provided with life-saving equipment, such as hydraulic cutters, circular saws and hoses.



Photo: A group of local volunteers respond to a fire using material provided by World Vision in the central West Bank (credit: Local Volunteers, central West Bank)

“There are entire villages that we cannot reach due to metal gates. These communities are effectively deprived of Civil Defence services.”
Civil Defence member

In addition, 114 community safe spaces were constructed or rehabilitated and now function as multipurpose hubs for emergency preparedness and response coordination. These hubs support the delivery of humanitarian aid while also strengthening local resilience, emergency preparedness, and disaster risk reduction. During emergencies, they have served as first aid stations for individuals injured in attacks on villages. They are also used to train local volunteers and store essential equipment. Crucially, they provide a safe and much-needed space for psychosocial support services, hosting children’s clubs and community initiatives that help reinforce the protective environment at the local level.

“Even small repairs like tires or batteries are delayed because of the financial crisis. We sometimes pool money ourselves just to keep a truck moving.” Civil Defence member



Child Protection & Mental Health Support

Timeline →	Since October 2023	Year 2 of the response (October 2024 – September 2025)
People received Mental Health and Psychosocial Support Services (MHPSS)	93,000	42,000
People trained to provide MHPSS and/or conduct referrals	1,200	578
Children participated in summer camps	12,250	2,250
People reached with awareness messages and information on mental health and available services	205,000	205,000
Safe play areas built or rehabilitated	26	26
Children reached with safe play/recreation	35,000	35,000
Children engaged in Social & Emotional Learning	28,000	13,000
Total number of people supported and / or informed	348,000	296,000



Photo: A world Vision's staff observes a psychosocial support session with children in the central West Bank (Credit: World Vision)

The Issue:

Since October 7th, 2023, many children in the West Bank face a grim reality. Schools frequently close, and the constant threat of violence looms over daily life. Checkpoints have multiplied, and economic hardship has deepened, confining many children to their homes, isolating them from friends, education, and normal routines. The resulting stress, anxiety, and trauma present long-term risks to their mental health and development.

“Some women have been left to suffer in silence. What they really need is a space where they can be heard, supported, and never judged.” Afnan, psychosocial support session facilitator



Photo: A child is taking part in a psychosocial support session (Credit: World Vision)

Our Response:

[World Vision](#) is supporting children to manage stress, cope with trauma, and prevent behavioural issues, depression, anxiety, and post-traumatic stress disorder (PTSD). Strengthening the social, emotional, and psychological resilience of children helps with learning, and strengthens knowledge retention, by building children's confidence in the classroom and beyond.

World Vision is using different evidence-based models adapted to the age of the beneficiaries, such as:

- Semi-structured psychosocial support sessions allowing children from 2 to 3 years of age to express their emotions, relieve stress and enhance psychological resilience through visual arts, drama, poetry, dance and sports in safe settings, while fostering a sense of security and normalcy.
- Early Adolescents Skills for Emotions (EASE), a World Health Organization's approach that provides group psychological help for young adolescents affected by distress in communities exposed to adversity.
- Psychological First Aid (PFA), which is a technique designed to provide an immediate supportive response to someone who is experiencing distress.
- Group Problem Management Plus (GPM+), another World Health Organization's approach that allows to provide psychological help for adults impaired by distress in communities exposed to adversity
- Social-Emotional Learning, which supports mental health by helping girls and boys understand and manage emotions, set goals, build positive relationships, and make responsible decisions. This fosters resilience, strengthens social connections, and can help prevent mental health issues, while supporting recovery.

“We've learned how to listen, how to care, and stick by each other. It brought us closer, and honestly, I feel proud to be able to help my friends for real.” Ghadir, 15-year-old PSS session participant



Photo: Children take part in a psychosocial support session in the West Bank (Credit: World Vision)



Access to Emergency Healthcare

Timeline →	Since October 2023	Year 2 of the response (October 2024 – September 2025)
Primary Health Centres rehabilitated and/ or provided with medical equipment and supplies	141	50
Stabilisation Points ² supported with medical equipment and supplies	13	13
Health workers trained	474	274
People benefitting from Primary Health Centres and Stabilisation Point services	264,000	160,000



Photo: Restrictions on movement, budget gaps and poverty, have seriously reduced access to health care for many families in the West Bank (Credit: World Vision)

² Stabilisation Points are Primary Health Clinics (PHCs) that are equipped to provide immediate care when hospital access is blocked, focusing on stabilising patients before they can be transferred to higher-level care. This also involves emergency obstetric care.



Photo: A doctor uses a new microscope provided by World Vision. This equipment ensures that local health clinics can continue providing essential services to children and families (Credit: World Vision)

The Issue:

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 challenges accessing antenatal and postnatal care due to safety concerns or economic hardship, causing widespread anxiety over the health of their unborn children.

Our Response:

[World Vision's](#) is supporting continuous access to health care in vulnerable communities affected by violence and movement restrictions. This involved the rehabilitation of clinics and the provision of equipment for obstetric care, such as mobile ultrasounds, in addition to trauma and emergency surgery kits.

“I constantly experience anxiety and fear when I think about one of my children needing urgent medical care and not being able to reach a medical centre.” Nisreen, a mother of six from Al-Karmel, a village in South Hebron

World Vision is also supporting the establishment of vital Stabilisation Points. Through this initiative, selected primary health clinics are being upgraded to provide immediate care within local villages, particularly when access to hospitals and ambulance services is blocked. These Stabilisation Points focus on stabilising patients before they can be transferred to higher-level medical facilities, helping to ensure their survival. Hundreds of health workers have received training that equip them with the skills needed to deliver emergency care – including in cases of emergency childbirth.

In addition, 140 primary healthcare centres across the West Bank have been rehabilitated and/or supported with life-saving tools and equipment to strengthen their emergency preparedness.

“We face so many barriers to reach the health clinic – unsafe roads, no public transport, the threat of violence.” Reham, 24-year-old mother of three, Hebron governorate

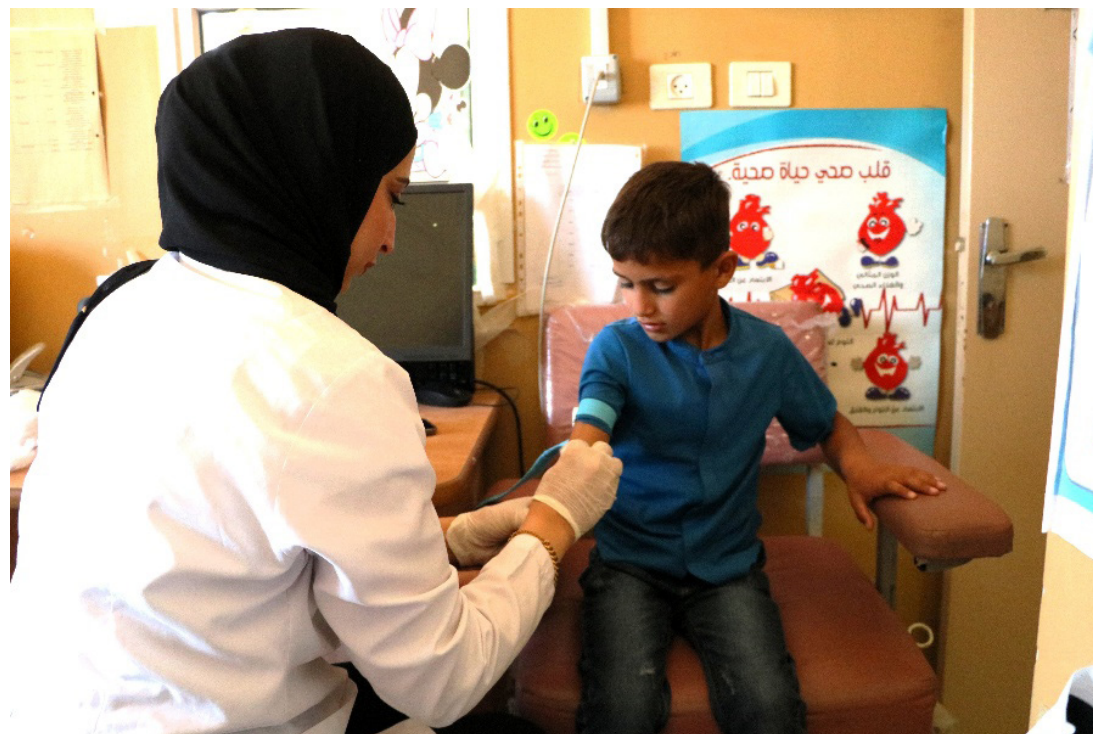


Photo: A child receives health care in a clinic supported by World Vision (Credit: World Vision)



Access to Safe Education

Timeline →	Since October 2023	Year 2 of the response (October 2024 – September 2025)
Teachers trained on provision of PSS and SEL in school	1,600	1,000
Children enrolled in catch-up classes	5,000	5,000
Teachers trained to provide catch-up classes	348	348
Schools supported on emergency preparedness (safety plans, equipment and / or training)	279	257
Schools and kindergartens rehabilitated to improve safety and/or accessibility	65	33
Kindergartens provided with preschool learning and PSS tools	100	67
Children accessing learning in schools supported by World Vision	126,000	75,000



Photo: A teacher facilitates a catch-up class for children displaced by violence in the north of the West Bank (Credit: World Vision)

The Issue:

In the West Bank, schools have not been spared from violence. Hundreds of violent incidents have affected schools, teachers, and students over the past two years. The combination of violence, movement restrictions, and an ongoing fiscal crisis has resulted in reduced face-to-face education, school closures, and significant learning losses impacting girls and boys of all ages.



Photo: Students writing quietly during a catch-up class (Credit: World Vision)

Our Response:

[World Vision](#)'s response focuses on strengthening the protection environment in schools to ensure continuous access to quality education. Schools and kindergartens are rehabilitated to become adapted to the risks of violence, disasters, or emergencies. Children, teachers, and school staff are also supported to assess the safety of their schools and classrooms. Together, they develop action plans, allowing them to improve safety measures for students and teachers alike. World Vision also provided them with emergency preparedness equipment – such as fire extinguishers, first aid kits, and stretchers – and organized emergency preparedness trainings for children and teachers (i.e. drills for fire safety, active shooter, or tear gas) in partnership with the Palestinian Civil Defence.

“Classes are frequently disrupted and school hours reduced, depriving students of precious days of learning.” Maysa, headmaster in a primary school, Jenin governorate

To help children recover from the learning losses experienced due to continuous attacks on the education system in the West Bank, World Vision is supporting community-based, face-to-face, catch-up classes. In 2025, the classes were conducted alongside the school semester, using a Ministry-approved curriculum adapted to the educational levels of the children.

“Education is not a privilege; it is a fundamental right essential for building a future full of hope and resilience” Nersyan, 16-year-old student



Photo: A teacher supports children during a catch-up class (Credit: World Vision)

Next phase of the Response

As the protection crisis in the West Bank intensifies, World Vision International remains committed to delivering life-saving aid to the most vulnerable, especially children. The next phase will focus on emergency preparedness, protection, and shifting essential services closer to affected communities amid growing safety concerns and access restrictions.

Our key priorities for the next 12 months will remain focused on:

- Distributing life-saving items and cash or voucher assistance to displaced families.
- Providing mental health and psychosocial support to children and caregivers.
- Creating safe spaces and strengthening grassroots emergency response.
- Expanding emergency health services via Stabilization Points and Primary Healthcare Centres.
- Addressing learning loss through catch-up classes and safer learning environments.

Over the next three months, we will also commit to:

- Distributing winter supplies for families and shelters.
- Scaling up support for first responders.
- Enhancing direct assistance to children through psychosocial, protection, and education programs.

Every child deserves to feel safe, to learn, and to grow up healthy. Without urgent action, an entire generation of children in the West Bank risks growing up knowing only hunger, fear, displacement and lost opportunities. Together with affected communities, World Vision will continue working to restore hope and dignity, giving every affected child a chance at a better future.



Photo: A World Vision's staff with a volunteer firefighter is leading an emergency preparedness session in a school (Credit: World Vision)



Photo: A young girl smiles during the olive harvest in the south of the West Bank. (Credit: World Vision)

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About World Vision

World Vision is a Christian relief, development and advocacy organisation dedicated to working with children, families, and their communities to reach their full potential by tackling the root causes of poverty and injustice. World Vision serves all people, regardless of religion, race, ethnicity, or gender.

World Vision started operating in Jerusalem, the West Bank, and Gaza in 1975. Since then, the organization has developed one of the most extensive community-based presences among organizations operating in the West Bank, with 90 dedicated staff, more than 300 volunteers and an annual budget of \$11 million for 2025. In 2024, our programmes directly benefited over 200,000 individuals, including 125,000 children residing in 384 villages across the West Bank.



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