

9 September 2026

1. Summaryⁱ

20	3.6 million	106 MSEK	22 MSEK	30 MSEK	158 MSEK
Humanitarian crisis ranking Sida's mid-year allocation analysis ⁱⁱ	Number of people with humanitarian needs Sida's mid-year allocation analysis ⁱⁱⁱ	Initial allocation for 2026	Additional allocation in 2026	Flexible funding in 2026	Total Sida funding in 2026

Humanitarian needs in Palestine remain alarming and risk further deterioration in 2026 amid a prolonged, conflict-driven crisis, with an estimated 73,000 Palestinians killed and nearly 174,000 injured since Hamas' terrorist attack on Israel on 7 October 2023.¹ Despite improvements after the October 2025 ceasefire, major humanitarian challenges persist and are further exacerbated by the ongoing regional escalation in Middle East. Severe destruction in Gaza, major obstacles to aid, together with ongoing demolitions, military operations, settler violence and movement restrictions in the West Bank have deepened suffering and weakened community resilience. Needs for protection, food, shelter, Water, Sanitation and Hygiene (WASH), medical care and safe humanitarian access remain critical, and assistance will be essential throughout 2026, alongside recovery and reconstruction efforts. In total, 3.6 million people are expected to require humanitarian assistance in 2026—2.1 million in Gaza and 1.5 million in the West Bank. The 2026 Flash Appeal for Palestine amounts to USD 4.1 billion to deliver life-saving support to 3 million people.² As of August 2026, the Flash Appeal is 39.6 per cent funded, up from 7.9 per cent in March, though a substantial funding gap remains for the rest of the year.³

Sida's initial allocation for 2026 prioritises addressing the most acute needs and restoring access to basic services in Gaza and the West Bank. Partner selection focuses on proven capacity to meet urgent needs in a principled manner under restricted access, and on integrating civilian protection. In September 2026, Sida allocated an additional SEK 22 million to the response, channelled through the oPt Humanitarian Fund (SEK 12 million) and ICRC (SEK 10 million). Additional flexible funding in 2026 has amounted to 30 MSEK, bringing Sida's total funding in 2026 to 158 MSEK.

¹ OCHA. [Reported impact snapshot | Gaza Strip](#). August 2026. (accessed 2026-09-04)

² OCHA. *Flash Appeal 2026 at a glance*. December 2025. (accessed 2025-12-12)

³ OCHA Financial Tracking Service. Occupied Palestinian Territory 2026 Flash Appeal funding status (accessed 2026-09-03)

2. Humanitarian needs & affected population

Humanitarian needs in Palestine remain severe. Gaza has been devastated by over two years of war, displacing nearly all 2.1 million residents,⁴ many repeatedly. Two-thirds are now crowded into roughly 1,000 sites west of the “Yellow Line”⁵— the October 2025 ceasefire demarcation dividing Gaza into an Israeli-controlled east and a confined Palestinian west. Further expansions of controlled areas into the so-called “Orange Line” extend restrictions to humanitarian actors and require additional coordination. The current “Orange Line” places 64.9 per cent of the Gaza Strip under tighter and more direct Israeli control.⁶

The crisis in Palestine is marked by widespread violations of international humanitarian law, including attacks on civilians and aid workers, forced displacement, and the destruction of essential services. In September 2025, the UN Commission of Inquiry assessed that, given the scale and nature of attacks on civilians, the situation in Gaza meets the criteria for genocide.⁷

Although famine conditions eased after the October 2025 ceasefire, 67 per cent of Gazans—1.4 million people—still face crisis-level or worse food insecurity (IPC 3+).⁸ The July 2026 IPC analysis — the first to incorporate SMART surveys since the ceasefire — found all five governorates in Crisis (IPC Phase 3) for food insecurity, an improvement on the previous analysis (October–November 2025)⁹, which included populations in Catastrophe (IPC Phase 5).¹⁰ Conditions are however, projected to deteriorate slightly through December, driven by continued hostilities, volatile access, declining funding and constrained livelihoods. Malnutrition improved to Phase 1 (Acceptable) over the same period but is projected to deteriorate to Phase 2 (Alert), with substantial treatment needs for children and pregnant or breastfeeding women expected to continue.¹¹

Malnutrition remains widespread, especially among children and pregnant or breastfeeding women. Lack of reliable water supply affects 93 per cent of households, sanitation systems are near collapse, and 81 per cent of water structures in Gaza are damaged or destroyed.¹² By July 2026, 90 per cent of Gaza households faced moderate-to-high water insecurity.¹³ Families in Gaza have been forced to burn waste, plastic, and other hazardous materials to cook food due to the lack of fuel and cooking gas. Only 42 per cent of health service points remain operational, with just 3 per cent fully functional, and more than 18,500 people—including 3,800 children—require medical evacuation.¹⁴ Health needs are acute: 91 per cent of households reported a health need in the past month, and 98 per cent reported the presence of rats in or around their shelter.¹⁵ A shelter severity assessment of 1,951

⁴ OCHA. *Flash Appeal 2026 at a Glance*. p.9

⁵ OCHA. [Humanitarian Situation Update #355 | Gaza Strip](#). February 2026. (accessed 2026-03-22)

⁶ OCHA. [Humanitarian Situation Report](#). June 2026. (accessed 2026-09-09)

⁷ Human Rights Council. *Legal analysis of the conduct of Israel in Gaza*. September 2025. (accessed 2025-12-05)

⁸ OCHA. [Reported impact snapshot | Gaza Strip](#). August 2026. (accessed 2026-09-04)

⁹ IPC. Gaza Strip: Acute Food Insecurity Situation. July 2026. (accessed 2026-09-04)

¹⁰ IPC. Gaza Strip: Acute Food Insecurity Situation for. December 2025. (accessed 2026-09-04)

¹¹ IPC. Gaza Strip: Acute Malnutrition Situation. July 2026. (accessed 2026-09-04)

¹² OCHA. *Situation Update #355*. (accessed 2026-09-04)

¹³ OCHA. *Humanitarian Situation Report*. August 2026. (accessed 2026-09-04)

¹⁴ OCHA. *Humanitarian Situation Report*. March 2026. (accessed 2026-09-04)

¹⁵ Household Vulnerability Assessment (HOVA), oPt. July 2026. (accessed 2026-09-04)

households, published August 2026, classified all four assessed governorates in Phase 4 (Severe), finding approximately 2 million people in need of shelter assistance (Phase 3+) and approximately 1.2 million in urgent need (Phase 4+).¹⁶ With the rainy season and the 2026-2027 winter approaching, this is a major concern with urgent preventive and mitigation measures needed.

Palestinian adult men and adolescent boys are disproportionately represented among those injured or killed in violent incidents, in particular in the West Bank, involving Israeli security forces and Israeli settlers. Children, women, older people, and persons with disabilities face critical risks. Protection risks are severe, including gender-based violence, family separation, arbitrary detention, and exposure to explosive remnants of war. 60 per cent of school-aged children lack access to in-person learning.¹⁷ More than 57,000 households are headed by women, and 12,000 women and girls have newly acquired long-term war-related disabilities.¹⁸ Since October 2023, partners have reported a total of 589 explosive ordnance incidents across Gaza.¹⁹

The economic collapse is profound: Gaza's GDP fell by 87 per cent between 2023 and 2024, unemployment is around 80 per cent²⁰, and reconstruction needs exceed USD 67 billion.²¹ Market conditions have improved somewhat since the ceasefire, but food prices remain volatile and inflation reached around 305 per cent in March 2026—well above pre-October 2023 levels.²²

In the West Bank, humanitarian needs also worsened sharply amid escalating settler violence, military operations and increased movement restrictions. More than 2,500 Palestinians have been displaced so far in 2026 due to settler attacks and related access restrictions.²³ Military operations in early 2025 led to the large-scale displacement of residents from the Jenin, Tulkarm and Nur Shams refugee camps, contributing to the largest single displacement in the West Bank since 1967, with more than 32,000 people still displaced.²⁴ As of March 2026, settler attacks had become more severe, with a 54 per cent increase in injuries and a more than fourfold rise in related displacement compared with 2025 averages.²⁵ WFP's Q1 2026 West Bank Food Security Report illustrates how needs have broadened beyond protection: 32 per cent of households are now vulnerable or highly vulnerable in meeting essential needs, 76 per cent reported falling incomes, and food consumption scores have deteriorated to 12 per cent poor/borderline (from 5 per cent in 2022). GDP fell 13 per cent in 2025 versus 2023, and poverty has risen from 12 to 28 per cent since the conflict began.²⁶

¹⁶oPt Shelter Cluster. [Exposed on All Sides: Shelter Severity and Household Needs Across Accessible Areas of Gaza](#). August 2026. (accessed 2026-09-04)

¹⁷ OCHA. *Humanitarian Situation Update* #355. (accessed 2026-09-04)

¹⁸ UN Women. *Remarks by IN Women Chief of Humanitarian Action*. November 2025. (accessed 2025-12-04)

¹⁹ OCHA. [Humanitarian situation report](#). August 2026. (accessed 2026-09-09)

²⁰ UNCTD. [Gaza's economy collapsed](#). November 2025. (accessed 2025-12-04)

²¹ World Bank Group. [Financial Intermediary Fund for Gaza](#). November 2025. (accessed 2025-12-05)

²² OCHA. *Humanitarian Situation Report*. March 2026. (accessed 2025-12-05)

²³ OCHA. [Humanitarian Situation Report](#). September 2026. (accessed 2026-09-09)

²⁴ OCHA. [Northern West Bank Humanitarian Response Update](#). July 2025. (accessed 2026-03-19)

²⁵ OCHA. [Humanitarian Situation Report](#) | 19 March 2026. (accessed 2026-03-20)

²⁶ WFP. [WFP Palestine Food Security Analysis: West Bank Food Security Report](#). July 2026. (accessed 2026-09-04)

3. The humanitarian response

The humanitarian community faced immense challenges delivering aid in Palestine in 2025, and these difficulties continue in 2026.

Since the 9 October 2025 ceasefire under the US President’s 20-point peace plan, the response has expanded, although still below needs. UN-tracked data shows a marked decline in looting²⁷ and partners have managed to increase aid flows. By late November, 125,000 households received Multi-Purpose Cash Assistance²⁸, market supplies increased and prices fell, functioning health facilities rose by about 17 per cent, and in-person learning resumed for 215,000 children (32 per cent of Gaza’s school-aged population).²⁹ 1.6 million people have been reached in Gaza with full food parcels for the first time in 2026, however, this scale is not sustained and response coverage varies in line with access constraints.³⁰ Funding for the response plan has since risen from 7.9 to 39.6 per cent by August 2026, though well over half of the USD 4.06 billion Flash Appeal remains unfunded with four months of the year left.³¹

3 mn	\$4 bn	39.6%
People targeted in the response plan Flash Appeal 2026	Required to reach the target in the Flash Appeal 2026	Of the funding secured for the Flash Appeal 2026

Despite some gains, Israeli-imposed bureaucratic and security restrictions continue to undermine operations, with volatile crossings, screening delays, and limits on equipment repeatedly disrupting aid delivery. Humanitarian movements often halt entirely, “dual-use” restrictions force reliance on inadequate materials, INGO deregistration threatens operations, and the 2026 regional escalation is further constricting access and increasing risks across Gaza and the West Bank. The 2026-2027 winterisation plan is a priority, but preparations are constrained by depleted shelter and NFI stocks due to access restrictions and funding shortfalls.³²

New structures linked to the peace plan, including the Civil-Military Coordination Centre (CMCC) in Kiryat Gat³³ introduce an additional layer of engagement for humanitarian access discussions with Israel. By mid-2026, the US-led CMCC was restructured and renamed the International Gaza Support Center (IGSC). Concerns remain that the IGSC could sideline existing UN-led coordination mechanisms and reintroduce more militarized models of aid delivery in Israeli-controlled areas of Gaza.

In October 2024, the Israeli Knesset passed two laws effectively banning UNRWA from operating in areas that Israel defines as its territory, including East Jerusalem. In December 2025, the Israeli Knesset adopted additional legislative amendments that further restrict UNRWA’s ability to carry

²⁷ UNOPS. *UN2720 Mechanism for Gaza*. December 2025. (accessed 2025-12-10)

²⁸ OCHA. *Gaza Humanitarian Response, Situation Report No. 35*. December 2025. (accessed 2025-12-09)

²⁹ OCHA. *Gaza Humanitarian Response, Situation Report No. 38*. December 2025. (accessed 2025-12-09)

³⁰ WFP. *Emergency Response External Situation Report #83*. February 2026. (accessed 2026-09-09)

³¹ OCHA. Financial Tracking Service. (accessed 2026-08-28)

³² OCHA. *Humanitarian Situation Report*. September 2026. (accessed 2026-09-09)

³³ CENTCOM. *Civil-Military Coordination Center to Support Gaza Stabilization*. October 2025. (accessed 2026-03-23)

out its activities. UNRWA remains central to the response, with 11,000 staff in Gaza³⁴ and 4,000 in the West Bank³⁵, and contribute with infrastructure on which many agencies depend. However, Israeli restrictions continue to limit staff rotations and the entry of goods, and attacks on UNRWA facilities and personnel have been reported in 2026. A significant budget deficit further threatens its operational capacity³⁶, though the agency continues to deliver services at scale.³⁷

The 2025 Flash Appeal was 65 per cent funded. Sweden, through the Swedish Ministry for Foreign Affairs (MFA) and Sida, was the fifth-largest donor to the response after the United States, Qatar, United Arab Emirates and the European Civil Protection and Humanitarian Aid Operations (ECHO).³⁸ Some donors have also provided significant bilateral support to Palestine outside the UN-led system. With continued MFA funding, Sweden is likely to remain one of the largest humanitarian donors to Palestine in 2026.³⁹

Overall, humanitarian actors still lack the space to scale up assistance according to needs. Bureaucratic and security-related obstacles persist and are unlikely to shift in the short term. In 2026, the priority will remain addressing life-threatening needs while coordinating with early recovery efforts. Without political progress, humanitarian needs in Palestine will continue.

4. Sida's humanitarian allocation

Sida's initial humanitarian allocation to Palestine amounted to SEK 106 million. In response to evolving humanitarian needs, Sida is providing an additional SEK 22 million in September 2026. The funding will target the most acute and severe needs through flexible support to partners operating in Gaza and the West Bank. Priorities include shelter, WASH, and protection, while also strengthening locally led humanitarian action (LLHA). Through additional flexible funding, several Rapid Response Mechanisms (RRMs) have already been activated by partners to address worsening WASH needs in Gaza, and a new livelihoods intervention providing animal feed assistance has been approved. While a significant share of the allocation is directed towards Gaza, some funding also supports responses to the deteriorating humanitarian situation in the West Bank. There, the focus is increasingly shifting from primarily protection concerns, including settler violence, to a broader range of multisectoral humanitarian needs, alongside efforts to address severe protection risks.

One of the primary factors influencing the allocation is partners' access capacity, i.e. the ability to address the most acute and severe needs in hard-to-reach areas. Sida also seeks complementarity between partners in terms of sectoral focus (Shelter, Health, WASH, Protection etc.) and capacity

³⁴ UNRWA. [Situation Report #210](#). (accessed 2026-03-12)

³⁵ UNRWA. [Situation Report #202](#). (accessed 2026-03-12)

³⁶ UNRWA. [Finance and Fundraising Update, Sept. 2025](#). (accessed 2026-03-20)

³⁷ UNRWA. *UNRWA's work in the occupied Palestinian territory since January 2025*. October 2025. (accessed 2025-11-27)

³⁸ OCHA. [Financial Tracking System, State of Palestine: 2025 Summary](#). (accessed 2026-03-10)

³⁹ Government Offices of Sweden. [Regeringen avsätter 800 miljoner kronor i humanitärt stöd till Gaza och regionen för 2026](#). December 2025. (accessed 2026-03-24)

to bring in supplies to Gaza. Another priority is scaling up Cash and Voucher Assistance to strengthen cost-effectiveness and enable recipients to prioritise among their needs.

In 2026, there is a need for the humanitarian community to coordinate with recovery and reconstruction efforts to leverage a stronger impact for affected people. Such work is still in the early stages, however. It is therefore unlikely that the humanitarian community will be able to significantly scale back its footprint during the year (although funding constraints might render this necessary). Nevertheless, humanitarian actors can engage in certain early recovery efforts to enable greater and more cost-effective results, for example by promoting livelihoods and repairing water infrastructure to lessen the need for more expensive water trucking.

PARTNER	INITIAL ALLOCATION
International Rescue Committee (IRC)	10,000,000
International Committee of the Red Cross (ICRC)	21,000,000
Norwegian Refugee Council (NRC)	20,000,000
oPt Humanitarian Fund (oPt HF)	35,000,000
United Nations Children's Fund (UNICEF)	20,000,000
TOTAL	106,000,000

FLEXIBLE FUNDING & ADDITIONAL ALLOCATIONS 2026 (SEK)		
PARTNER	FLEXIBLE FUNDING ⁴⁰	ADDITIONAL ALLOCATION
Action Contre le Faim (ACF)	3,000,000	-
Food and Agriculture Organization (FAO)	9,697,000	-
International Committee of the Red Cross (ICRC)	-	10,000,000
OCHA Field Coordination	3,900,000	-
oPt Humanitarian Fund (oPt HF)	-	12,000,000
Première Urgence Internationale (PUI)	1,800,000	-
Solidarités International (SI)	2,800,000	-
Swedish Civil Defence and Resilience Agency (MCF)	8,555,000	-
TOTAL	29,890,000	22,000,000

⁴⁰ Flexible funding includes a mix of allocations such as Rapid Response Mechanism and other flexible funding mechanisms.

ⁱ The 2026 mid-year allocation of humanitarian funding is based on Sida's humanitarian allocation analysis methodology. The analysis reflects the current humanitarian situation across crises and is being updated continuously with the latest available data. The information in the HCA is based on reports, data, and information from partner organisations and other entities, as well as observations from field visits and dialogue with partners.

ⁱⁱ Sida's mid-year allocation analysis consists of three dimensions that are assessed for each of the 25 crisis-affected countries that were included in the initial allocation for 2026: 1) magnitude and severity of humanitarian needs 2) capacity of the humanitarian system to respond to needs and 3) capacity of the crisis-affected country to respond to needs. The qualitative and quantitative analysis produces an index scoring for each country, where the highest ranked country is found to have the greatest proportion of unmet severe humanitarian needs globally, based on available data. For more information please see Mid-year Allocation Methodology.

ⁱⁱⁱ Sida uses the most inclusive estimate of humanitarian needs which is available from recent sources and supported by triangulation. For Palestine, the source is the Flash Appeal.