

occupied Palestinian territory 2013

Appealing Agency	UNITED NATIONS CHILDREN'S FUND (UNICEF)
Project Title	Informing emergency programmatic and advocacy response through documentation of child rights violations
Project Code	OPT-13/P-HR-RL/52232
Sector/Cluster	PROTECTION
Refugee project	No
Objectives	To provide a timely, reliable and objective evidence base for emergency referral and response to appropriate services to victims of conflict violations and for targeted advocacy initiatives for the prevention of, and accountability for, grave violations against children
Beneficiaries	Total: 16,000 50% girls / 50% boys Children (under 18): 16,000
Implementing Partners	Al Mezan Centre for Human Rights, Palestinian Centre for Human Rights (PCHR), B'Tselem, CPT, Save the Children, War Child Holland, DCI-Palestine, EAPPI, Première Urgence - Aide Médicale Internationale, OCHA, OHCHR, UNRWA and WHO
Project Duration	Jan 2013 - Dec 2013
Current Funds Requested	\$500,000
Location	Projects covering both West Bank and Gaza
Priority / Category	B - MEDIUM PRIORITY
Gender Marker Code	2a - The project is designed to contribute significantly to gender equality
Contact Details	Douglas G Higgins, dghiggins@unicef.org, +972 02 5840400
Enhanced Geographical Fields	West Bank Gaza Strip
Cash based Intervention	<p>Is any part of this project cash based intervention (including vouchers)? No</p> <p>Conditionality:</p> <p>Restrictions:</p> <p>Estimated percentage of project requirements to be used for cash/vouchers: 0</p>

Needs

The ability of the Child Protection Sector to timely, accurately and objectively monitor and document the impacts of the conflict on girls and boys is critical and has resulted in concrete and direct emergency programmatic responses and targeted advocacy for strengthening the protective environment for children.

In Gaza, the long term impacts of Operation Cast Lead, the ongoing blockade and severe restrictions on movement have depleted family coping mechanisms and led to significant deterioration of services, affecting all aspects of child well-being such as adequate standards of living, access to medical care or access to quality education. The conflict is continuing to expose children to direct violence. In 2012, in Gaza, 8 school related incidents were documented affecting over 11,000 children (both girls and boys). Also in 2012, 74 children were injured (69 boys and 5 girls) and 8 children (7 boys and 1 girl) were killed..

Across the West Bank, girls and boys are affected by home demolitions and continued military operations, night raids, arrests, ill-treatment, harassment at checkpoints, and attacks by settlers. Both girls and boys are vulnerable to settler violence, intimidation and harassment but girls are perceived to be less able to protect themselves against physical attacks and this can further restrict their mobility. In 2012, 11 schools related incidents were also reported in the West Bank affecting over 2,096 students. Furthermore, children were injured and killed in conflict related incidents. In 2012, in the West Bank, 263 children (254 boys and 9 girls) were injured, and 3 boys were killed. In addition, in the West Bank, access and movement restrictions cause hardship and isolation of families, especially those living near the Barrier and in Area C. Adolescent boys are particularly at risk of arrest and detention. In 2012, 87 cases of ill-treatment of boys aged 9 to 17 years were documented. Forty-eight per cent of the boys were arrested from their homes at night between 1am and 5am. Seventy-four per cent of the boys suffered at least ten different types of ill-treatment including but not limited to being painfully hand-tied, blindfolded, strip searched, leg-tied, verbally abused, subjected to physical violence, not informed of their rights, and not allowed the presence of a parent or lawyer during interrogation. In addition, 51 boys from the West Bank were transferred to prisons inside Israel in contravention of the Fourth Geneva Convention. Specific emergency response targeting boys affected by arrest and detention, including to psychosocial and educational services is required to ensure that they are able to reintegrate society as active and contributing members.

In accordance with SCR 1612 and 1882, UNICEF coordinates and chairs a multiagency working group on grave violations against children comprised of UN and national and international non-governmental agencies. The working group includes Palestinian and Israeli local organisations and reports on the six grave violations against children, as listed in SCR 1612, including a category of sexual violence targeting girls and boys; and three additional violations specific to oPt context (detention; ill treatment and torture; and displacement).

In 2012, emergency programmatic response was provided through coordination of protective presence actors at eight most 'at risk' checkpoints, to facilitate children's access to school. This initiative is based on a rapid assessment conducted in 2011 and on data collected through the Monitoring and Reporting Mechanism (MRM) . This project will continue throughout the 2012-2013 school year to increase protection to children en route to and from school.

In July 2012, MRM data was used to inform a targeted inter-agency and emergency advocacy initiative: a media briefing and field visit on settler violence was held and attended by over 40 international journalists and diplomatic missions.

Activities or outputs

In 2011 and 2012, in coordination with the Protection Cluster, the Chair of the Working Group liaised with the HCT Advocacy Task Force, to maintain children issues on the humanitarian agenda and to contribute to the development of the main messages.

Supporting the efforts of the Working Group on Grave Violations against Children is essential to ensure strengthened protective environment through evidence based advocacy and informed response. Accurate, reliable and systematized sex-disaggregated data collection and thorough statistical analysis form the basis for improved protection of girls and boys and equal exercise of their human rights and the prevention of child rights violations.

To this effect, UNICEF will continue to chair and coordinate the multiagency Working Group on Grave Violations against Children comprised of UN and national and international non-governmental agencies, and provide members with technical support and specialized and targeted capacity building. Efforts will continue in 2013 through coordinated action addressing settlement expansion in the West Bank aiming at raising awareness, locally and internationally, of the links between settlement expansion and key humanitarian and protection concerns. The recently established Human Rights Council-mandated international fact finding mission on Israeli settlements in oPt will be one of the main targets of this advocacy. In relation to the issue of arrest and detention of adolescent boys, ongoing research and documentation achieved through the MRM will be used for a campaign aiming at informing the action and interventions of key actors to achieve the implementation of specific recommendations.

The following activities are proposed:

- Based on evidence collected through the MRM, implement at least one new emergency response initiative and support the existing protective presence coordination project to strengthen service delivery, for the protection of girls and boys and ultimately the reinforcement of their protective environment.
- Continue liaising and coordinating Working Group members to ensure immediate and systematic referral of male and female victims of violations to response services, emergency psychosocial support in particular, within the Inter-cluster Coordination Group and specifically with the Protection and Education Clusters
- Capacity building of partners for strengthened monitoring and documentation, in particular field data collection, through trainings in line with MRM guidelines in oPt
- In coordination with the protection cluster and the HCT Advocacy Task Force, identify and implement at least two humanitarian related advocacy initiatives linked to the reporting of the grave violations with specific references to the different impacts on girls and boys, for example, the advocacy campaign on children in military detention.
- Hold at least four interventions with members of the Working Group on Grave Violations against Children to support all aspects of documentation and reporting, specifically information sharing, and data collection and analysis, with a gender breakdown of violations through the maintenance and regular upgrading of the MRM database.
- Draft and disseminate reports on the effects of armed conflict on both girls and boys in oPt including: i) six bi-monthly Global Horizontal Note (GHN) to the UN Security Council Working Group on Children and Armed Conflict, ii) one report to the UN Secretary General Annual Report on Children and Armed Conflict, iii) six public bulletins on grave violations against children in Israel /oPt, with gender breakdown and analysis, iv) at least two inputs to other reporting mechanisms.

UNICEF will ensure monitoring and evaluation of the project on the basis of outputs delivered, including advocacy initiatives, monthly review of protective presence monitoring sheets and number of referrals to emergency services with a specific focus on psychosocial support.

Indicators and targets

- Improved knowledge of trends and patterns related to grave violations against children in Israel and oPt, with a gender breakdown and analysis to improve accountability for violations against both girls and boys.
- Emergency programmatic interventions, including the coordination of protective presence partners at checkpoints to increase and facilitate access of girls and boys to schools.
- Advocacy initiatives on settlement expansion and detention of children are held in a coordinated fashion, based on evidence-based and with a gender-sensitive approach, to inform humanitarian actors and direct and indirect duty bearers, including the Security Council Working Group on Children and Armed Conflict.

United Nations Children's Fund(UNICEF)	
Original BUDGET items	\$
MRM coordination	260,000
Capacity building of partners for monitoring and documentation	101,215
Communications, Advocacy and Awareness	50,000
Operational field support, supply, logistics, and security services	56,075
HQ indirect support costs (7%)	32,710
Total	500,000

United Nations Children's Fund(UNICEF)	
Current BUDGET items	\$
MRM coordination	260,000
Capacity building of partners for monitoring and documentation	101,215
Communications, Advocacy and Awareness	50,000
Operational field support, supply, logistics, and security services	56,075
HQ indirect support costs (7%)	32,710
Total	500,000