



State of Palestine

Voluntary National Review of the Sustainable Development Goals in Palestine

High Level Political Forum

16th – 18th July 2018

Institutional Arrangements and Roadmap



Sustainable Development under occupation

After 70 years of displacement. 51 years under occupation and 11 years of siege on the Gaza Strip, Palestine remain enduring the same systemic challenges that obstruct the achievement of fulfilled lives to its citizens.

Blockade of
the Gaza Strip

Lack of Access to
Area C Resources

Restrictions on
Movement and
Control of Borders

Israeli Human
Rights Violations
and Expansion
into Palestine





Poverty and Inequality

After 70 years of displacement. 51 years under occupation and 11 years of siege on the Gaza Strip, Palestine remain enduring the same systemic challenges that obstruct the achievement of fulfilled lives to its citizens.

Status

29.2% of Palestinians live under the national poverty line (**53%** GS and 13.9 WB)

16.8% live in deep poverty (5.8% in WB and **33.8%** in GS)

41.1% receive an income below the national poverty line (4.0% in WB and **67.6%** in GS).

30.3% receive an income below the national extreme poverty line, (15.1% in the West Bank and 54.9% in the Gaza Strip.)

Occupation's Obstacle

Israeli **blockade** on Gaza

Restrictions on movement of people and goods

Land **appropriation**
Restrictions in Area "C"

Destruction of infrastructure and development initiatives

Government Intervention

Direct **quarterly funds transfers** program covers 110,000 most poverty struck families in Palestine

Micro-loans to income-generating projects for 15,000 households

Automate system of aid allocations to increase efficiency.

Provision of **free services** to reduce inequalities and poverty.



Hunger and Health

Health and food security have made advances in the West Bank, yet due to the blockade in Gaza both have significantly deteriorated further highlighting the obstacles set forth by Israeli occupation.

Status

18.7% of GS experience severe food insecurity; WB food insecurity declined to 3.3%

life expectancy increased reaching 73.7 (72.1 Males, 75.2 Females)

Vaccination coverage has reached **99%**

95.5% of pregnant women received medical care.

99% of births occurred under professional supervision

Occupation's Obstacle

WB farmers **denied** access to their land in Area C; 35% of the agricultural areas in Gaza are **off-limits**

only 2.3% of Palestinian cultivated land rely on irrigation due to **water confiscation.**

Fishermen are **assaulted** by the Israeli occupation navy and granted access to 6-9 nautical miles

Destruction of health infrastructure

Restrictions on imports to Gaza extend to essential medical supplies

Rejection of 45% of patient

Government Intervention

Exempt farmers from paying tax.

The Palestinian Agriculture Credit Institution to **invest** in farming Increased number of clinics by **63%**.

Free health care to persons with disabilities

Free Referral system to hospitals abroad and in East Jerusalem to fill gaps in service provision.

Run **27** hospitals with a bed capacity of **3325**.



Education and Gender

Status

Net school enrolment rates was **98.2%**

literacy rates increased to 96%.

The education **gender gap has been bridged**, (96.6% of males, 99% of females) enrolled in education.

Women's participation in the workforce has **doubled** since 2001.

47.5%. Unemployment amongst women is

37% of women reported violence from their partners.

Occupation's Obstacle

95 violations were recorded against Palestinian educational facilities, Israeli occupation forces **killed 9 students** and **1 teacher**.

The recent **volatility** of aid owing to the **decreased US support** for UNRWA has resulted in 370 schools with **319,188 students** and **11,660 teachers** affected.

The occupation policies **obstruct** the access of Palestinian women to justice, especially in area C and east Jerusalem

Government Intervention

Free compulsory schooling.

Government is **granting scholarships** for students with outstanding achievement
Increased number of clinics by **63%**.

Develop a curriculum for students with disabilities

Incorporate women in the planning budgeting and policy development

Institutionalize and **mainstream** gender equality



Water and Energy

Status

91% are connected to public piped water networks

99.7% have access to improved unshared sanitation.

97% of the water drawn from the Gaza aquifer is **undrinkable**, and only **10%** of Gaza's population has access to safe drinking water.

1.2 million people in Gaza have no running water

Daily power cuts in Gaza last **21 hours**.

Occupation's Obstacle

Continues **water theft** resulted in use of only **13%** of the Shared Mountain Aquifer

Illegal settlements produce **38%** of wastewater that flows in the West Bank

Air strikes disabled Gaza's Power Plant (GPP)

Prevention from exploiting gas reserves

Limits on fuel imports to GPP
Israel **cut power** to towns in the West Bank

Government Intervention

Develop water infrastructure within the confinement of Israeli permit system.

Seawater desalination plant construction

Going Solar: development and investment in solar energy and installation of solar PV on the roofs of **500** public schools



Environment

Status

Less than **0.5%** of waste in Palestine is recycled, and **67%** was openly dumped

0.96 metric tons of CO2 emissions per capita per year

The Dead Sea's water levels in **decline**, resources being **depleted**

The areas covered by forests in Palestine has **decrease**.

Occupation's Obstacle

80% of waste produced by settlements is disposed of in WB

Israel has **uprooted** more than **1.5 million** olive trees

55.5% of the forested area is in **Seam Zones**.

Israel **diverts** the Jordan River and unsustainably profits from dead sea depletion.

Wall is a **barrier** to natural animal immigrations

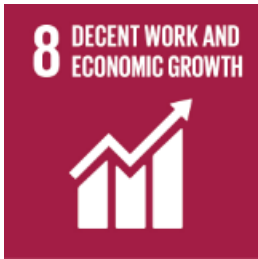
Settlements built on natural reserves

Government Intervention

Establish landfills and **close** random dumps

Expand the use of **renewable energy** to further **reduce carbon footprint**

Greening Palestine planted **657,840** trees in 2016



Work and Industry

Status

4.7% nominal GDP growth

2.1% real GDP growth per capita

Unemployment rate in Palestine reached **27.47%** (**43.9%** in the GS, and 17.9% in the WB)

Industrial production contribution down to **13.3%** of GDP

Employment in industrial sector decreased to **13.4%** in 2017.
Dependency on Israeli economy
58.2% of imports are from Israel,
83.2% of exports are to Israel

Occupation's Obstacle

Gaza's share declined from 31.6% to 24.8% due to the **blockade**

Israel **assaults** on Gaza **destroyed** 20% of industrial enterprises and more than 4,000 commercial establishments

Israel's building permit system in the WB and Area C **denies** industrial and economic expansion.

Lack of connectivity due to Israeli **barriers** reduces economic growth significantly.

Government Intervention

Laws Reform concerning investments, labor laws, and **tax reforms** especially in the field of renewable energy and industrial sectors.

Investment incentives to private sector

Government deployed an **employment fund** for generating jobs.

Vocational training programs that support youth integrate in job market.



Sustainable Cities and Communities

Status

75% of Palestinians live in urbanized areas

41.5% (2,051,096) are internal refugees living in refugee camps

A shortage of 70,000 housing units and a need for 13,000 extra houses per year

In East Jerusalem, there is a chronic shortage of more than 10,000 housing units

Occupation's Obstacle

Israeli settlements, permit system and Wall **obstruct** the natural expansion of Cities.

Demolition of 527 establishments
Gaza aggression **destroyed** 18,000 homes; 4126 families remain displaced

Israeli **Blockade** on Gaza obstruct access to essential building material.

Two UNESCO World Heritage sites are under Israeli occupation **threat**

Efforts to **undermine** Palestinian identity in East Jerusalem

Government Intervention

Upgrading public facilities, especially the road system and improving access to services

Completed the **rehabilitation** and maintenance of 80 cultural heritage sites.

Reconstruction of Gaza as well as building **accessible housing** to the poor in the rest of Palestine

Completed 23 urban plans in 2017

Assist to local councils in creating and executing their **urban plans**



Peace, Justice and Strong Institutions

Status

Absence of a functioning Palestinian Legislative Council (PLC)

Israel killed **2,240** in Gaza 27% (612) were children.

In 2015 and 2016, **181** and **126** were killed respectively

In 2016, **15** cases of extrajudicial street executions by Israeli occupation forces

In 2018, during a single day of Gaza March of Return **63** were killed **2,770** protestors injured

Occupation's Obstacle

Extrajudicial persons, protected by the Israeli occupation, who do not uphold the rule of law in Palestine

Lack of access to Area C obstruct the rule of law and access of citizens to justice.

Israel carries daily raids on Palestinian villages and **kidnap** citizens

In military courts **99.74%** resulted in a conviction in of **9,542** many of whom are children

Government Intervention

Reviewing the structures of government institutions

Juvenile law was **passed**

Unify the justice system

Provide **free legal representation** to all citizens

Develop infrastructure needed for the judicial system

Anti-corruption commission received **430** complaints

Enhance the checks and balances of the bureaucratic system

Create electronic **complaint system**

OTHER CHALLENGES

Data collection

Data on only 109 out of 244 SDG indicators are available

Partnerships with international community

sharp decline in the volume of foreign aid to Palestine in past years

Politicization of aid

Humanitarian Aid to Palestine is increasingly politicized

POPULATION GROWTH AND REFUGEES

6 million refugees reside outside of Palestine awaiting their inevitable return.

Palestine is home to 4.8 million citizens, 2.9 million live in the West Bank, and 1.9 million live in the Gaza Strip.

The population consists of 47% are the underage category (0-17), 24.8% make up the youth category (18-29), 5.2% are elderly (60+).

Palestine experience an annual population growth of 2.8%.

By 2030 the Palestinian population is estimated to 6.9 million with 3.1 million in the Gaza Strip and 3.8 million in the West Bank.

Do Not Leave Palestine Behind

There is no Sustainable Development under occupation

End the Israeli Occupation of Palestine

End the Blockade of the
Gaza Strip

Give Palestine Access
to its Resources

Allow Palestinian to move
freely and control their borders

Palestine requests the international community support to end this disabling environment and allow Palestine to join global efforts in achieving the SDGs.

