Ministry of Foreign Affairs

Activity: UNICEF - Gaza (24-0001311)

Id	24-0001311
Date	25-11-2025
SAP application number	

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Key data

Activity basics

Type	Standard
Short name	UNICEF - Gaza
Contract party	UNICEF (30013107)
ODA	Yes
Amount and Currency	26970000 USD
Amount EUR	23706400
Start date	01-07-2024
End date	31-12-2026
Full name	Strengthening Water Supply and Sanitation Access in the Gaza Strip
Summary	The project will contribute to providing a minimum of 15 l/ca/day of safe water to 1.4 million people, as well as to ensuring access to basic sanitation services for 300,000 people. 10 million EUR of central money was delegated to RAM for this project, based on a decision by R. 18/11/2025: An additional EUR 10 million of central money was delegated to RAM for this project, based on a decision by R.

Activity details

Date of receipt of proposal	02-06-2025
Proposal’s reference number	
Budget holder	Ambassade Ramallah (8251RAM)
Limit access	No
Related activity	

Accounting data

SAP application number	
Funds center	RAM OT DRW & sanitation contribution (1702U02020008)

Policy data

Cooperation modality	Project support
Technical assistance	Between 10% (inclusive.) and 25% (exclusive) of the activity budget
CRS code	14031 Basic drinking water supply
Policy Keywords	
Refugees & host communities	Yes
Team Europe Initiative	No
Policy Markers	
Biodiversity	Not targeted
Climate change: adaptation	Not targeted
Climate change: mitigation	Not targeted
Desertification	Not targeted
Equality between men & women	Not targeted
Drinking water and sanitation	Principal
Explain your choices	The project is about restoring basic water services in Gaza and therefore has no link to climate adaptation, mitigation, desertification or equality between and men & women. The central goal is to give people water.

Beneficiary location

Beneficiary location	Country
Country	Palestinian Authorities
Location type	Territory
Specific location	Gaza

Policy Appraisal

Policy relevance

- What policy objectives, as set out in the annual plan, policy notes etc., will this activity contribute to?

The project will contribute to providing a minimum of 15 l/ca/day of safe water to 1.4 million people, as well as to ensuring access to basic sanitation services for 300,000 people. This fits in well with the objectives of the annual plan and MACS of the NRO.

Rationale

- What issue/problem will be addressed by the activity
- Why does the activity help to address the issue/problem?
  For ODA activities over EUR 250.000, please explain the Theory of Change

The escalation since the 7th of October 2023, has triggered an unmatched need for humanitarian assistance across the Gaza Strip. However, since the blockade in early March 2025 and the breakdown of the ceasefire agreement, there are significant constraints on humanitarian access severely hampering the delivery of essential services and supplies, including healthcare, food, water and sanitation supplies, and fuel.
According to the UN 2025 Flash Appeal for the State of Palestine, the total people in need for Water Sanitation and Hygiene (WASH) services in the Gaza Strip is estimated at 2.3 million people.
Despite the extreme security situation, UNICEF, in collaboration with the Palestinian Water Authority (PWA), the Coastal Municipal Water Utility (CMWU), the WASH Cluster and other partners, has continued its efforts to support the production and distribution of safe water to the population and the access to basic sanitation services, in order to safeguard public health and prevent the spread of diseases. These efforts target approximately 80 per cent of the affected population in the Gaza Strip.

Contextual analysis

- Who is/are the target group(s) and why?

This project is set to significantly improve the quality of life for approximately 1.4 million people across the Gaza Strip through various activities. It aims to ensure that everyone receives a minimum of 15 liters of safe drinking water per capita daily, providing enhanced clean water access.
The initiative focuses on increasing the water supply systems' operational capacity, resilience, and sustainability, effectively meeting the population's daily needs. Additionally, the project will specifically target where the larger number of IDPs resides, aiming to provide them with improved access to safe drinking water by restoring damaged networks and boreholes. This effort will further strengthen the resilience and sustainability of the water supply systems, ensuring they are well-equipped to meet the community's daily requirements effectively.
The project will provide services to 300,000 IDPs through the maintenance of the sewage networks and sewage pump stations currently causing serious public health risks. This intervention will specifically focus on maintaining spot damage and sewage pumping stations to be identified through the assessments. Beneficiaries will also benefit from interim sanitations solutions to bridge the early recovery.

- Who are the other main stakeholders?

PWA and CMWU are the main stakeholders. PWA plays a critical role in facilitating the smooth implementation, supporting the implementation of processes, and leading the assessment of project locations. CMWU's involvement is essential assessments, developing technical specifications, participating in supervision, and monitoring the project.

- To what extent have stakeholders been involved in formulating the proposal?

PWA and CMWU have been very much involved.

- Is the intervention aimed at a specific geographical location, and if so, why?

Gaza Strip.

Added value

- What is the added value of the Dutch government being involved in relation to other donors, the EU, NGOs and local authorities?

The Netherlands is the "donor lead" in the Palestinian water sector.

- Are the recipients making an own contribution or co-participating in the activity, and if so, to what extent?

No.

Lessons learned

- What lessons learned (from previous or comparable activities, published evaluations, relevant publications) will be addressed by the activity?

The project is in line with EU funding towards to same goal. This means that the project can build on the experiences of the EU-UNICEF cooperation.

Durability

- How will the results of the activity be sustained after its end date? What is the exit-strategy?

The project is focusing on repairs and installation of hardware that - provided they do not get bombed again - will long outlive the duration of the project. To ensure sustainability of the project's investments, UNICEF will work closely with key partners, including the Palestinian Water Authority (PWA), the Coastal Municipalities Water Utility (CMWU), and other service providers.

Gender

- Does the proposal include a gender analysis? If yes, what are the main outcomes? If no, why not?
- Does the proposal justify the target group's gender-specific interests and needs (and why)? Please explain.
- Have women and young people been included in the stakeholder analysis? Please explain.

There are gender-based violence risk mitigation measures in providing and rehabilitating WASH services in place. There is no additional focus on gender in the proposal, as it is challenging to integrate a gender component into the objective of repairing water infrastructure.

Climate change

- Does the proposal include an analysis of the possible effects of climate change on the activity or its results?
- Does the proposal include any interventions to combat these effects (adaptation/mitigation)?

No.

Cooperation, harmonisation and alignment

- Does the activity involve cooperation with Dutch organisations, the EU or other donors (including delegated cooperation), local organisations or other parties?
- How does the activity contribute to harmonisation and/or multi-donor financing?
- What is the degree of (policy and financial) alignment?

The project links in with an EU project of 25 million EUR towards similar goals. UNICEF modelled the proposal on the work they are doing with the EU to ensure harmonisation.

Results

Water

1.1. Drinking Water

Indicators
1.1.A. Number of people that gained direct access to an upgraded drinking water source (basic or safely managed), as a result of Dutch support
Measurements: Target: 450000

Monitoring and evaluation

Monitoring

- **Specify what reporting information is required for this activity, based on the activity analysis decision tree (see Help).**

Include the following elements:

- **Planning versus realisation: tracking progress against predetermined objectives as laid out in the project proposal.**
- **Performance and quality: checking relevance and appropriateness of the implementing organisation's performance based on key assumptions in the proposal and the outcomes of the risk analysis.**

Pay attention to the method and frequency of monitoring and describe the roles and responsibilities. For further information, see Help.

A comprehensive monitoring and evaluation (M&E) methodologies will be employed to ensure the project's effective management and successful implementation. These methodologies are designed by UNICEF to adapt to the evolving context of the project and provide actionable insights for continuous improvement. The M&E framework includes the following components:

Monitoring through UN Mechanisms: UNOPS is a dedicated UN agency that will be engaged in monitoring and evaluating the provision of fuel. This agency will complement our internal monitoring systems to ensure unbiased assessment and verification of project outcomes.

Project Field Monitoring Systems: Our field monitoring system encompasses:

- **Input Monitoring:** Regularly track resources allocated to each activity to ensure efficient use.
- **Implementing Partner Progress Report Verification:** Monthly verification of progress reports from partners against the project's benchmarks and objectives.
- **Qualitative Monitoring and Observation:** In-depth analysis of the project's impact on the community and environment through direct observations and community feedback during field visits.

Field monitoring visits will be conducted regularly by project staff and partners to gather data on the effectiveness of program delivery, identify any bottlenecks in implementation, and ensure the proper end-use of supplies. Additionally, when required, visits by the funding entity will assess on-site progress, provide recommendations, and guarantee quality in project execution.

Third Party Monitoring: UNICEF may hire an external entity to monitor the intervention implementations, particularly if UNICEF staff are unable to access the site. Recommendations and observations from this party will constitute another layer of monitoring assessed by UNICEF for proper decision.

Simplified Project Implementation Reporting: Implementing partners will report monthly on key performance indicators via an online platform, supported by field visits and spot-checks by our program staff. This streamlined reporting mechanism aims to provide timely updates on project interventions and outcomes.

Harmonized Approach to Cash Transfers (HACT): To manage the risks associated with cash transfers to implementing partners, the project will adopt a HACT framework. This approach is designed to minimize transaction costs for partners, encourage using national systems for managing funds, and ensure accountability for results and resources. The HACT framework includes capacity assessments for partners, regular cash transfers and reporting, assurance activities, and financial management capacity development.

Through these comprehensive monitoring and evaluation methodologies, the project aims to ensure transparency, accountability, and effectiveness in improving water supply and environmental conditions.

Evaluation

Describe whether a final evaluation and/or a mid-term review has been planned. If yes, state:

- who will commission the final evaluation and/or mid-term review (for options, see Help);
- whether the procedure and practical arrangements have been agreed on with the implementing organisation (for details, see Help).

Midterm review will not take place due to the short duration of the project. UN evaluates internally.

Finance

Budget breakdown

- Include an overview of the activity budget, including overhead costs.
- Is the budget arithmetically correct?
- Are the amounts/rates in the budget acceptable?
- Briefly explain the structure of the budget.
- Are overheads proportional to outputs? What is included? What is recharged?
- Is implementation conditional on the budget being amended in an inception phase? (Specify the requirements that the budget must satisfy and the date by which the budget must be amended)

Nov 2025 update due to top up and extension request
original NL commitment was USD 4 mln in 2024. R approved initially 10 mln eur top up in May 2025 and a 2nd 10 mln eur in Sep 2025 (USD 11,170,000 + USD 11,800,000 respectively).
the overall total Nl funding is USD 26,970,000.- and extended till 31 December 2026 and follows the same pattern as the original budget.
The budget is output based and will address the following:

- Transfers and Grants to Counterparts
- Contractual Services

For breakdown of the budget see MINBUZA-2025.2684457/2684458
UNICEF submitted an updated version on 24/11 which is filed under MINBUZA-2025.2686337 + calculation release payment/liquidity forecast MINBUZA-2025.2686341.
on reporting sofar CFS 2024 has been received, indicating usd 99,594 actual costs and 408,437 committed costs.

Earmarking

- Is the Dutch contribution to the programme earmarked (i.e. reserved for a specific purpose)? If so, specify the reasons why.

NL is the only donor for this specific proposal.

Prepayments

- Based on the prepayment decision tree (see Help), do the payments need to be entered as prepayments and why? In the case of a lump sum, assess this against the applicable criteria and give the reasons for your choice.
- What is the maximum percentage that can be paid as prepayment, and why?
- Which are the reporting obligations on the basis of which prepayments can be closed?

Based on the latest policy dated 7 May 2024, UNICEF falls in the below category and therefore payments will be registered as a **lumpsum**.
According to the workplan, most of the activities will be completed in the first 8 months of the implementation period. All funds will be committed before the end of the year; also noting that UNICEF needs to have account of the funds prior to procurement. 100% payment will be done upon signing of the specific arrangement as all commitments will be made within 12 months.

Nov 2025 - top up request & extension
- the pre-payment/lumpsum criteria has changed since. payments are registered as pre-payment

Bank details:
UNICEF NY Cashier's Account No. 1
JP Morgan Chase Bank
International Agencies Banking
277 Park Avenue, 23rd Floor, New York, NY 10036-0003, USA
Account no. 014-1-076224
Swift Code: CHASUS 33
CHIPS ABA: 0002 UID 259366
Fed Wire: 0210 00021

Available resources

	Foreign currency - USD	EUR
Implementing organisation's own contribution		
Firm commitments by other donors (for each donor)		
Dutch contribution	4,000,000	3,700,000
Dutch contribution top-up 1	11,170,000	9,997,150
Dutch contribution top-up 2	11,800,000	10,006,400
Total available resources	26,970,000	23,703,550
Budget needed	26,970,000	23,703,550
Still to be financed	--	
Soft commitments by other donors (for each donor)		
Uncovered balance		

- Are there any non-financial contributions relevant to implementation of the activity, such as deployment of volunteers, availability of buildings, materials, etc.?
- If there is an uncovered balance, how will this affect implementation of the activity (e.g. proportional reduction in outputs, omission of regions) and how will this affect the decision whether to fund this activity?

The table above reflects NL funding only. The project links in with efforts from the EU (25 million, with possibly an additional 2 million in the pipeline & potential more financing for Gaza depending on the possible reconstruction phase) towards a similar end. This proposal is 100% funded by NL. Also thanks to the NL funding specific for WASH early recovery, UNICEF has more of their overall general funding available for other purposes.

Grant with a repayment obligation, loans, equity investment or guarantee

- Does the Dutch contribution take the form of a grant with a repayment obligation, a loan, an equity investment or a guarantee (either in whole or in part)? If yes, briefly set out the consequences for accounting and how correct processing in the financial records will be ensured.
- Are there revolving funds? If yes, please explain what will happen to any residual funds, how closure will take place and which agreements should be made.

n/a

Audit opinions

- Is an audit opinion required for the activity (see Help)? Briefly explain.
- Should the audit opinion be accompanied by an additional auditor's report (for example, on the risks set out above, or on monitoring that the organisation carries out on its prepayments to other organisations)?

In line with the General Arrangement, UNICEF will submit annual Certified Financial Statement.