



Identifying IDPs in Palestine

New thinking on monitoring internal displacement in the West Bank

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September 2015

Acknowledgments

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Cover photo: Sami Daoud Al Shawawra has three children, one girl aged 4 and two boys aged 6 and 1   . The family received a demolition order in 2003 on grounds of having built their home without a legal permit. In December 2010, the Israeli authorities came at 5.30am to carry out that order; the Al Shawara family were given 10 minutes only to salvage whatever property they could. The family was still gathering their belongings inside the house when the demolition started. Since the demolition, the family of five has been forced to live in a tent throughout the winter. They became sick, particularly the youngest child. The mother suffers from depression. The father apart from some livestock, has no gainful employment. There is no property available to rent in Al Numan, and building outside the village would require a considerable amount of money: "Our right is destroyed..this is inhumane...If I stay like this, I will become crazy. When they destroyed the house, they destroyed our lives. It is miserable, my family tried for days to enter the village but they could not. I need to leave this village and rebuild somewhere."    Activestills/Anne Paq



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Acronyms

ACF	Action Contre la Faim
ACRI	Association for Civil Rights in Israel
ACTED	Agency for Technical Cooperation and Development
ARIJ	Applied Research Institute Jerusalem
CEW	Community Eyes Watch
DCO	District Coordination Office
DWG	Displacement Working Group
GIS	Geographic information system
GVC	Gruppo Volontariato Civile
HNO	Humanitarian Needs Overview
HTC	Humanitarian Country Team
IASC	Inter-Agency Standing Committee
ICA	Israeli Civil Administration
ICAHN	Israeli Committee Against House Demolitions
ICRC	International Committee of the Red Cross
IDF	Israeli Defence Forces
IDPs	Internally Displaced Persons
IDMC	Internal Displacement Monitoring Centre
IHL	International Humanitarian Law
IHRL	International Human Rights Law
INGOs	International non-governmental organisations
MoLG	Ministry of Local Government
MoSA	Ministry of Social Affairs
NGOs	Non-governmental organisations
NRC	Norwegian Refugee Council
OCHA	UN Office for the Coordination of Humanitarian Affairs
OHCHR	UN Office of the High Commissioner for Human Rights
oPts	occupied Palestinian territories
PA	Palestinian Authority
PCBS	Palestinian Central Bureau of Statistics
PU-AMI	Première Urgence - Aide Médicale Internationale
RHR	Rabbis for Human Rights
SRP	Strategic Response Plan
UDOC	Urban Displaced and Out of Camp
UNRWA	United Nations Relief and Works Agency for Palestine Refugees in the Near East
VPP	Vulnerability Profile Project
WASH	Water, Sanitation and Hygiene
WFP	World Food Programme

Executive Summary

Internal displacement in Palestine is caused by various triggers intrinsically related to the Israeli occupation of the Gaza Strip, and the West Bank, which includes East Jerusalem. Since the early 2000s, with the start of the construction of the separation barrier following the second intifada, there has been increasing recognition of the significance of internal displacement as a consequence of Israeli policies and practices and the importance of improving monitoring by the humanitarian community. Allied to this has been growing awareness that the internationally-acknowledged definition of an Internally Displaced Person (IDP), that is set out in the UN Guiding Principles on Internal Displacement – a document which restates and compiles human rights and humanitarian law relevant to IDPs – is applicable in the occupied Palestinian territories. The extent of internal displacement resultant on Israeli actions needs to be quantified both to enable advocacy and to provide support.

With a view to informing on-going discussions on strengthening data collection and response to internal

displacement in Palestine, this report analyses the different monitoring and data collection tools currently being used by a range of international humanitarian organisations. There is a specific focus on monitoring internal displacement in the West Bank.

Drawing on 26 field-based interviews conducted with a range of humanitarian actors in the West Bank as well as nine case studies, the research found these tools to be limited in several important respects:

- they focus on prevention of displacement rather than what happens during displacement
- they have a narrow geographical focus on areas under Israeli administration
- they only monitor displacement for up to 90 days

Current monitoring mechanisms ignore the many other triggers of displacement – which have been noted by the UN Special Rapporteur on the situation of human rights in the Palestinian territories. Our research confirmed testimonies that the hidden face of displacement may



Ruins of a Palestinian house in the village of Ad Deirat, south of Hebron and east of Yatta in an Israeli-controlled area. The house was demolished in 2013 and its residents forced to move to Yatta. The settlement of Carmel can be seen in the background. Credit: H el ene Bohyn, June 2015.

not be the incidents of demolition which attract international attention and media coverage, but, rather, the steady trickle of families who are ground down by years of harassment from Israeli military and civilian officials and settlers. Informants spoke of a wide range of triggers to leave – including impossibility of obtaining building permits, denial of access to pastures, settler violence and Israel military training exercises. Having survived years of pressure and vandalism, and seeing their assets depleted and access to resources restricted, they have little choice except to abandon their homes forever, often slipping away in secrecy. Evidence suggests the number of such cases is substantial and growing. At the moment evidence of this kind of displacement is largely inaccurate. Such IDPs need to be identified and quantified and their needs assessed.

Palestinians are regularly forced to flee their homes in Israeli-controlled areas and to seek refuge in areas administered by the Palestinian Authority. Palestinian municipalities are willing and able to participate in the collection of data on IDPs. Their participation would facilitate the extension of monitoring to Palestinian-controlled areas, thus permitting more inclusive data and probably resulting in identifying higher numbers of IDPs.

These gaps in monitoring inevitably call into question the accuracy of existing analysis and data collection on internal displacement in Palestine. Our research found evidence that current monitoring tools contribute towards the prevention of displacement. However, overall, they do not provide the data needed to facilitate a comprehensive response to IDPs' needs.

Our analysis clearly points to the need to establish a unified monitoring system bringing together all stakeholders, including Palestinian local authorities. The concept of IDP is relevant in this protracted crisis and needs to be better promoted. A shared IDP definition among humanitarians and donors needs to be created. A shared definition of an IDP – provided it were based on acknowledgement of the many triggers which force Palestinians to leave their West Bank homes – would enable better gathering of data.

Accurate data is needed to inform and enable a comprehensive and needs-based response to the specific needs of Palestine's recent and protracted IDPs. It is recommended:

- the humanitarian community address all triggers of internal displacement, not only demolitions and evictions.
- they should develop a common IDP approach which acknowledges that the geographical extent of displacement from place of origin to place of refuge, including areas under Palestinian control; and to monitor IDPs in the West Bank during their displacement including protracted situations.
- Palestinian local authorities should participate in collecting data on IDPs and notify humanitarian stakeholders of the whereabouts and needs of IDPs.
- they should cooperate with the humanitarian community to include IDP-related questions in the national census in 2017.
- the donor community should ensure support reaches not only those at risk of displacement but also those currently displaced.

1 Introduction

Collecting and reporting data on IDPs is primarily the responsibility of states, but very few governments do so. Governments and humanitarian actors who collect primary data are not necessarily trained to do so, nor are they supervised by an entity responsible for collating coherent field data. With few exceptions, comprehensive data does not exist. It may be available for some IDPs but not all areas of a country. It may include those who have been displaced for particular reasons and not include entire caseloads. A complete picture of displacement must include all the triggers that drove people into displacement and acknowledge the perilous state of children born in displacement. Ideally, data collection systems should exclude those who have died in displacement or who have returned, settled elsewhere, integrated locally or crossed an international border.²

In occupied Palestine, IDMC estimates that as of July 2015 at least 263,500 people were internally displaced.³ As with IDMC's 2015 Global Overview figure of 38 million, this figure is aggregated from various sources that use different

methodologies and assumptions.⁴ Thus, it is limited by the scope and the depth of information collected by others.

In the West Bank, including East Jerusalem, IDMC estimates of at least 141,500 people were displaced as of July 2015. This figure is an aggregate extrapolated from yearly statistics on forced evictions and demolition of Palestinian houses and structures upon which their livelihood depends. Our sources are from a long-established Palestinian non-governmental organisation, the BADIL Resource Center for Palestinian Residency and Refugee Rights. BADIL reports at least 129,000 Palestinians were displaced between 1967 and 2009 as a result of the destruction of their homes and livelihoods.⁵ The UN Office for the Coordination of Humanitarian Affairs (OCHA) reports 5,775 Palestinians were displaced between 2009 and early April 2015 following evictions and demolitions in the West Bank and East Jerusalem and 6,692 Palestinians were additionally displaced as a result of harassment by Jewish settlers in Hebron.⁶



Members of the Anabousy family stand in front of the remains of their house, one day after their home was demolished in November 2010. This was the home for 14 people, including 7 children. The family had lived in their home for the last 7 years and this was the third time their home had been destroyed. They started to rebuild right away. © Activestills/Anne Paq, December 2010

These figures indicate trends but are not based on actual monitoring of people during their displacement. They attempt to measure displacement caused only by housing demolitions and evictions. They thus do not include displacement related to at least eight other triggers of displacement, which were acknowledged in 2009 by the Special Rapporteur on the situation of human rights in the Palestinian territories occupied since 1967.⁷

No mechanism currently tracks Palestinians once they have been displaced. Monitoring has been limited exclusively to areas under Israeli control, hence at places of origin, not of refuge.⁸ Consequently, it is not possible to clearly assess the protection and assistance needs of Palestinians during their displacement, neither those displaced several decades ago who remain displaced or those who may have developed particular vulnerabilities linked to protracted displacement.⁹ One thing is sure – the effects of Israeli actions have drastically reduced the number of Palestinians living in areas of the West Bank under their direct military control.

This report does not aim to build a case for the applicability of a particular legal definition to describe internal displacement in Israel-Palestine. Nor does it take a position on when displacement ends. It acknowledges that Palestine's IDPs will only be able to achieve durable solutions to their displacement if a political solution to the occupation is found, the blockade of the Gaza Strip is lifted and the culture of impunity¹⁰ for human rights violations is ended.

To support on-going efforts to improve data collection on internal displacement in Palestine, this report examines current monitoring tools in the West Bank. In particular, it assesses how far data collection methods produce information on internal displacement, as defined in the 1998 Guiding Principles on Internal Displacement, an internationally recognised document, which restates and compiles human rights and humanitarian law relevant to IDPs.¹¹

Methodology

This report is limited to the West Bank, including East Jerusalem. Initial meetings were organised with international institutions and civil society organisations based in Jerusalem, Ramallah and Bethlehem:

- the main relevant UN agencies – OCHA, and the Office of the UN High Commissioner for Human Rights (OHCHR)
- local institutions – BADIL, B'Tselem, the Palestinian Central Bureau of Statistics (PCBS) and the Ministry of Local Government (MoLG)
- international non-governmental organisations (INGOs) – Save the Children, AIDA, the Agency for Technical Cooperation and Development (ACTED), Gruppo Volontariato Civile (GVC), Première Urgence - Aide Médicale Internationale (PU-AMI), Action Contre Le Faim (ACF) and the Norwegian Refugee Council (NRC).

In addition to meeting agency staff responsible for formulation of policy we also met technical staff and were given access to databases.

Recognising that current monitoring tools only cover Israeli-controlled areas, and drawing on IDMC experience elsewhere, we approached Palestinian governorates and municipalities affected by displacement.

A fortnight-long field mission was undertaken with the person in charge of the Urban Displaced and Out of Camp (UDOC) project, an initiative led by NRC and coordinated with the global Camp Coordination and Camp Management Cluster which seeks to provide information to those displaced, to ensure timely and coordinated service delivery and to promote community participation.¹² Twenty six interviews and focus group discussions were conducted in June 2015 with municipality staff, community leaders and IDPs in Tubas, Nablus, Izbik, Al Maleh, Al 'Aqaba, Homsa and Jenin in the northern West Bank and Hebron, Yatta, Idhna, Jinba, Imneizil, Samua, Sh'ib al Butum, Ar Rifa'iyya and Khallet al Maiyya in the south.

2

Internal displacement in Israel-Palestine

For Palestinians land is at the heart of their national tragedy and sense of victimhood. Land has been, and remains, central to the struggle between Israelis and Palestinians.

Around half of the Palestinian population were driven off their land by the creation of Israel in 1948.¹³ Since the 1967 occupation of what subsequently became designated as the occupied Palestinian territories (oPt), Jewish settlers and the Israeli army have continuously expanded control over most of the West Bank – called Judea and Samaria by the Israeli government. All Israeli governments since 1967, regardless of their political composition, have systematically supported colonisation through bureaucratic and financial incentives, which have encouraged Jews to move to the West Bank.¹⁴

The Special Rapporteur on the situation of human rights in the Palestinian territories noted in 2014 that expansion of Jewish settlement and Israeli discourse focusing on the Palestinian ‘problem’ as a security issue has meant that the initial policy of acquiring land allegedly void of inhabitants has progressively evolved into a policy of forcibly displacing Palestinians and confining them to urban pockets which today have been physically separated both from each other and from Israel by the West Bank barrier.¹⁵

Since 1967, it is estimated that some 27,000 Palestinian structures have been demolished and over 141,500 Palestinians have been internally displaced, while a further 300,000 have left the West Bank and East Jerusalem altogether over the same period.¹⁶ Today some 90,000 Palestinians are reportedly at risk of displacement.¹⁷ Communities most at risk include Palestinians in:

- East Jerusalem
- Area C of the West Bank – the name given to the (non-contiguous) areas under the direct control of Israel’s Civil Administration occupation authority. Area C, with 60 per cent of the territory of the West Bank, has witnessed recent dramatic declines in its Palestinian population as a result of Israeli colonisation.
- the Jordan Valley, where the Palestinian population declined from an estimated 200-300,000 in 1967 to around 58,000 in 2011¹⁸
- Bedouin communities, particularly in the far south of the West Bank
- “seam zones” – the name given to the areas between the Green Line (Israel’s internationally recognised bor-

der with Palestine) and the barrier or near the extended buffer zone separating the Gaza Strip from Israel.

2.1. Progress towards recognition of the IDP label in the oPts

In occupied Palestine, the humanitarian community after many decades of engagement has progressively recognised that Israeli policies and practice to acquire land and facilitate settlement expansion lead to displacement of Palestinians. A consensus has emerged around the terminology to define the phenomenon of internal displacement – in accordance with the Guiding Principles – as well as the need to monitor and coordinate humanitarian responses to it.

Until 2006, local NGOs, INGOs and the media generally referred to Palestinians displaced by house demolitions and evictions as “homeless”, not as IDPs. At that time, some did not see the utility of the IDP label, especially given that the status of Palestinian refugee used by the United Nations Relief and Works Agency for Palestine Refugees in the Near East (UNRWA) conferred some degree of assistance to Palestinians. Over time there has been growing recognition of the validity of the IDP label in Israel-Palestine and its potential to ensure greater visibility.¹⁹

This new awareness of internal displacement and its triggers and consequences in the region was reflected in the 2008 creation of the Inter-Agency Displacement Working Group (DWG) led by OCHA under the auspices of the Protection Cluster chaired by OHCHR. It rapidly grew to include over a hundred members, including UN agencies, Palestinian and Israeli local organisations, INGOs and donors. They collectively acknowledged the local applicability of the IDP definition provided by the Guiding Principles and started considering as IDPs all Palestinians, including UNRWA-registered refugees, who have been displaced as a result of policies associated with the Israeli occupation of the territories annexed in 1967. Accompanying this conceptual shift there has been increasing recognition of the applicability of the term “forcible transfer” to describe Israeli practices in the oPts.

The main objective of the DWG has been to effectively prevent and mitigate the impact of internal displacement and to encourage the broader humanitarian community to undertake a rights-based approach to displacement. Ac-

knowledging the lack of comprehensive and reliable data on internal displacement in occupied Palestine, the DWG has also sought to strengthen the systematic collection and analysis of information on internal displacement so as to better respond to IDPs' needs. Discussions around the systematic monitoring of internal displacement, however, have, unfortunately, not led to concrete action.²⁰

In 2011, the Israeli Committee Against House Demolitions (ICAHD) – which has consistently chronicled accelerating house demolitions and forced evictions – reported that over 26,000 houses had been demolished or seized since 1967.²¹ ICAHD has noted how settler violence creates constant pressure on Palestinian communities, already under stress from movement restrictions and house demolitions. The NGO has amassed evidence that “the demolition of Palestinian homes is politically motivated and strategically informed” to prevent establishment of a viable Palestinian state and ensure Judaisation of the occupied West Bank.²²

2.2. Development of humanitarian monitoring

Amid growing international concern at the scale of house demolitions and the need for a more coordinated response a new mechanism was established by the UN Humanitarian Country Team (HCT).²³ In March 2012 the Inter-Cluster Coordination Group (ICCG) assumed responsibility for coordinating the emergency response to demolitions and forced evictions. The Legal Task Force, one of the sub-groups of the Protection Cluster, took on the task of coordinating legal assistance responses. In 2013, discussions with the DWG on strengthening inter-cluster efforts aimed at preventing displacement resulted in transfer of its responsibilities so as to ensure that task forces and groups were incorporated in the cluster system coordinating the humanitarian response.²⁴

At the beginning of 2014, forced displacement was presented in the Strategic Response Plan as one of the four priorities to be addressed. Displaced people and those at risk of internal displacement were recognised as one of the most-affected groups.²⁵ Those at risk were identified as:

- pastoralist/Bedouin communities living in areas under Israeli control – in particular in the Jerusalem periphery such as those living between Jerusalem and the Dead Sea
- farmers with land in the “seam zone” between the barrier and the Green Line
- residents of the Israeli-controlled area of Hebron known as H2
- Palestinian communities living in or near areas illegally designated by Israel as “closed military zones” – including those in the northern Jordan Valley or in Masafer Yatta firing zone g18 in the south of the West Bank.²⁶

The 2014 Humanitarian Needs Overview (HNO), prepared by OCHA on behalf of the HCT, acknowledges that thousands of Palestinians have been forcibly displaced and that many others are at imminent risk of forced internal displacement.²⁷ The triggers mentioned include destruction of homes and other property, forced evictions, settler violence, movement and access restrictions, and, in relation to East Jerusalem, lack of residency permits.²⁸ The HNO raises concern about the serious immediate and long-term physical, socio-economic and emotional impact that displacement has upon Palestinian families and communities.²⁹ The fact that such concerns are expressed indicates the extent to which since 2008 the humanitarian community has recognised the reality of internal displacement in Palestine. Internal displacement became a key feature of protection agendas from 2011. The 2014 SRP ranked addressing internal displacement as the fourth most important strategic priority and the 2015 SRP ranked it second. A consistent feature of response plans has been a focus on prevention in the West Bank, with provision of assistance to those displaced confined to the Gaza Strip.³⁰

3

Displacement monitoring tools

A large range of national and international actors are actively involved in the monitoring of IDPs, most notably OCHA, OHCHR, local human rights NGOs such as B'Tselem or BADIL and over a dozen INGOs.

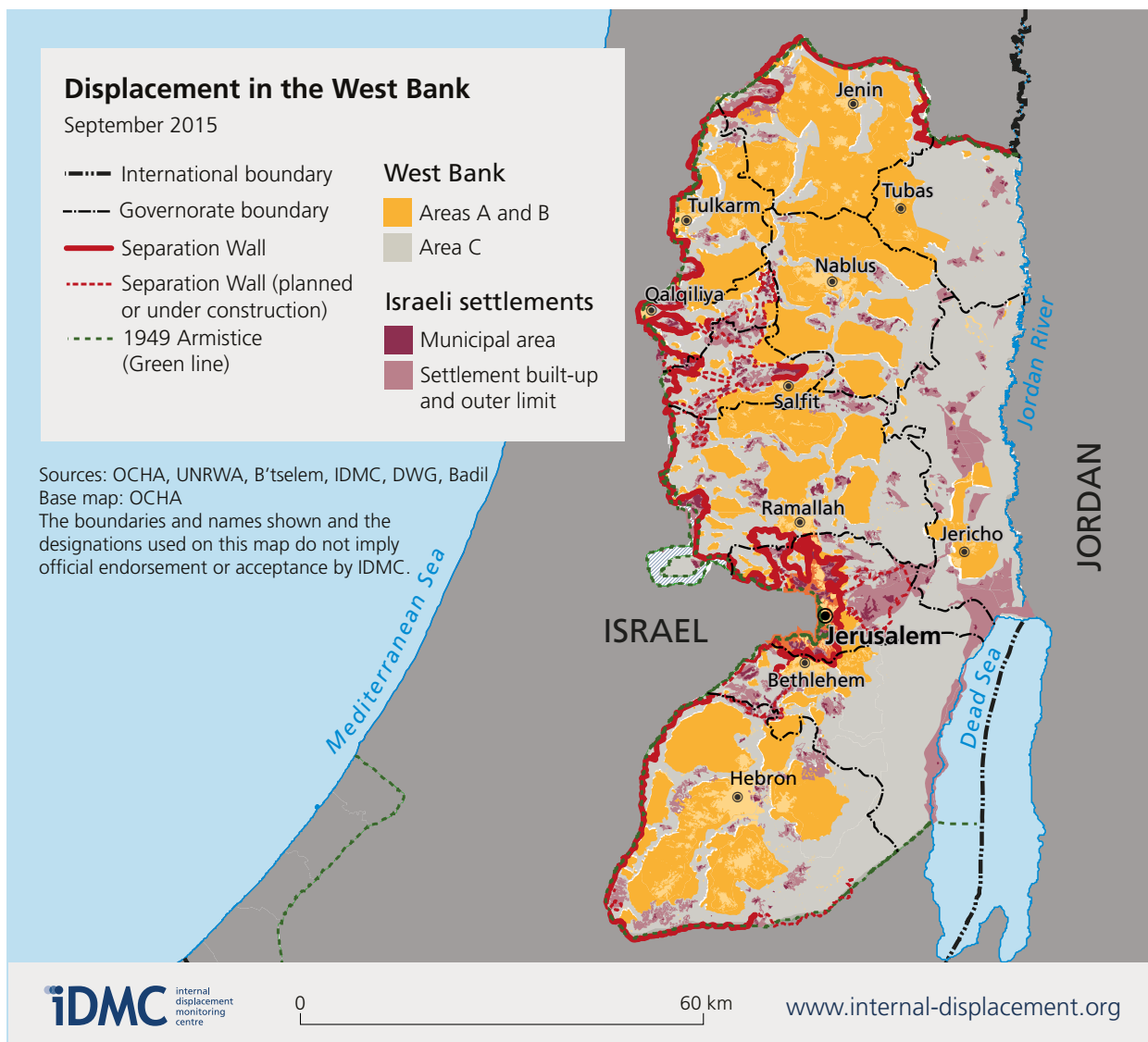
3.1. Ad-hoc monitoring

3.1.1. Human rights monitoring

With the beginning of the Israeli occupation in 1967 and the subsequent first and second intifadas, an array of Israeli and Palestinian human rights organisations

emerged. These included inter alia Al Haq, the Association for Civil Rights in Israel (ACRI), Yesh Din and HaMoked. They have not developed displacement monitoring systems but have drawn attention to new displacement cases. They, and others, have provided information on displacement through offering legal aid to Palestinian recipients of demolition orders, submitting legal petitions and reporting on court cases.

Human rights-focused NGOs have amassed a considerable body of evidence attesting to acts of violence, including house demolitions, by settlers and the Israeli Defence Forces (IDF), which have led to displacement



or affected those internally displaced. BADIL has published several surveys on the protection needs of IDPs in the West Bank that include estimates of their number.³¹ The work of such organisations has provided qualitative information on specific communities that have suffered multiple displacements and which are at risk of displacement. These include:

- Jahalin Bedouins living in what the Israelis have designated as E1, an area within the municipal boundary of the Israeli settlement of Ma'ale Adumim which adjoins East Jerusalem
- herding communities of al-Maleh in the northern Jordan Valley
- communities located in the southern Hebron hills
- those living within the Masafer Yatta firing zone hundreds of families in Khirbet Susiya village in the Hebron Hills at imminent risk of expulsion.³²

3.1.2. Geographic information system (GIS) mapping

In 2002 OCHA started its own GIS mapping – a system that allows capturing, storing and analysing spatial or geographical data. It has proven an essential tool for humanitarians, researchers and human rights advocates.³³

OCHA maps contain information on population density, communities at risk of displacement, demolitions of Palestinian property and land appropriation by Israeli settlers and Israeli civilian and military authorities. GIS mapping has become an important source of data on internal displacement caused by movement restrictions and house demolitions. It is now used by all those working in the oPts, including the ICRC, INGOs, academics and activists.³⁴

In 2012, OCHA released its “Humanitarian Atlas” with maps of each governorate of the West Bank, including East-Jerusalem and the Israeli controlled H2 area of Hebron, showing the Green Line, the separation barrier, demarcations of Areas A (Palestinian control), B (shared Israeli-Palestinian control) and C (full Israeli control), the names and locations of settlements and outposts as well as every single Palestinian community, built up areas, seam zones and firing zones. These maps provide an unparalleled source of data on internal displacement and are widely used.³⁵

3.2. Monitoring for programmatic purposes

3.2.1. OCHA’s demolition database

OCHA’s West Bank online demolition database is the main reference tool for humanitarian organisations working to assist IDPs. It comprehensively describes the cir-

cumstances of each demolition, GPS coordinates, details of each household and individual victim and contacts.³⁶ Fully operational early 2015, the database also contains historical information on incidents that occurred since January 2014.³⁷ The way it differentiates between affected people and IDPs depends on the type of structure that has been damaged. Displacement is considered to have taken place only if demolition has impacted an inhabited residential structure.³⁸

OCHA’s demolition database, which they also consider as a displacement monitoring tool, is undoubtedly the most detailed tool hitherto developed to monitor demolitions in the West Bank and to plan timely and targeted humanitarian responses. It may be accessed by a variety of stakeholders who participate in responses. It facilitates coordination among different respondents, making it easier to triangulate.

3.2.1. ACTED displacement tracker

In September 2014, ACTED started using their own displacement tracker, an instrument developed both because OCHA’s incident database was not as advanced as it has now become but also because ACTED has a different reading of the definition of IDP based exclusively on the physical departure of IDPs from their place of habitual residence and excludes those that remain in the immediate vicinity of their demolished houses. It contains information relating to all demolition incidents to which ACTED has responded as well as those reported by other partners. Excel files are attributed an OCHA incident code and indicate the date, occurrence and number of days of displacement, the number of households and individuals forcibly displaced, locations before and after the movement and the distance in kilometres between the two locations.³⁹ While the displacement tracker is limited geographically it is the only monitoring tool that reflects the physical movement of the population affected.

Most humanitarian actors in Palestine agree that the designation of a displaced person as an IDP is not dependent on distance between original location and place of refuge. Some stakeholders, including ACTED and B’Tselem, do, however, consider as IDPs only those who have left one distinct neighbourhood, village or area to find refuge in a completely different location. Hence, people considered by OCHA as having been displaced might be considered as only affected by demolitions or evictions but not IDPs by ACTED.

4

Gaps in monitoring

4.1. Non-considered triggers of displacement

As noted above, in 2009, the Special Rapporteur on the human rights in the Palestinian Territories identified nine triggers of forced displacement: evictions and land appropriation; military incursions; the expansion of settlements and related infrastructure; the construction of the barrier; violence and harassment by settlers; the revocation of residency rights in East Jerusalem; discriminatory denial of building permits and house demolitions and a system of closures and restrictions on the right of freedom of movement.

Although humanitarian stakeholders in Palestine are aware of all the triggers of internal displacement in Palestine, the monitoring has been focused on only some of them, most notably house demolitions.

The focus of OCHA's demolition database and ACTED's displacement tracker implies that no other trigger than that of house demolition and subsequent eviction is taken into consideration as a cause of forced displacement of Palestinian people. These monitoring tools cannot therefore be considered as instruments allowing the full tracking of IDPs nor the production of accurate data on their number, whereabouts and needs. IDPs victims of a second or third demolition are attributed another incident code and are re-counted as displaced if the destruction concerns again an inhabited residential structure. Hence, what is monitored are the infrastructure rather than the people. The figures of displacement generated by this database are based on the number of houses demolished and on the assumption that there is one household per property made of five people each.

While a lot of attention is drawn towards house demolitions, the information gathered during our field mission proved that there are indeed people forcibly displaced for other causes than demolitions such as the restrictions on freedom of movements. Displacement results in many cases from the less visible and cumulative pressures that greatly reduce Palestinians' access to services and resources, and limit their ability to maintain their traditional livelihood and remain in their areas of origin. Recent studies indicate that such displacement could be substantial and increasing. According to a recent unpublished survey conducted by OCHA in 2013, at least 70,000 Palestinians have been forcibly displaced within and into East Jerusalem between 2000 and 2012, citing as the main reasons

for their move a policy or practice applied by the Israeli authorities in the context of the occupation.⁴⁰

While OCHA and ACTED's databases are focused on the demolition of houses and livelihood structures as the main cause of displacement, many humanitarian actors and local human rights organisations consider settler violence as another major trigger. No systematic monitoring, however, has been put in place to follow-up on these cases that generally remain unknown. As a matter of example, the case study below describes the situation of a Palestinian family living in the southern Hebron hills and that was forced to leave its original place of residence because the violence and harassment by settlers became too burdensome.

Located north of the Firing Zone 918 and right next to the Palestinian village of At Tuwani, Havat Ma'on outpost (also known as Hill 833) was created in 1999. The settlers from Havat Ma'on have multiplied attacks on the population and properties of At Tuwani. The inhabitants of At Tuwani represent a community of farmers who live in tents and outfitted caves. They live the Bedouin lifestyle, relying on their flocks and land as their main source of income. The acts of settler violence they have experienced since 2001 made them all flee and take refuge in the nearby village of Imneizil.

“ Fifteen years ago settlers arrived and we haven't been able to live in peace ever since. They have often attacked us physically, not only me, but also my kids when they walk to school. They have killed many of our goats, damaged our tents and animal shelter, removed our water tanks, poisoned our fields, burnt our crops, cut our olive trees. We survived their incessant threats for over a year but in the end they just made our life so difficult that we couldn't possibly stay there. In 2002, we and twelve other families decided to come to Imneizil.⁴¹

In other cases, it is the combination of various triggers that force Palestinian families to move, at times a few kilometres from their habitual area of residence but sometimes much further. As demonstrated by the following case study, it happens that when people were displaced more than once and decide to return to their original place of residence they keep on being at risk of displacement, often for the same reasons that already chased them. The displaced families we visited in Al Samu'a all, without exception, live in dire circumstances and confirmed that they have never been visited by any NGO.⁴²

“ Our family was living on a land purchased in Furush Beit Dajan in the northern Jordan Valley after having been displaced from South Hebron in 1948. Since 2000, due to demolitions and continual violence and harassment by settlers, the IDF and ICA, nine of us have started to return with our wives and children to South Hebron where we live in and around Al Samu'a, a location made of both Israeli- and Palestinian-controlled areas. Most of us settled in the area under Israeli control where some of us already owned land. We continued our traditional livelihoods of herding sheep and goats but seven of our nine families were forced to move to the area under Palestinian control because of settler violence, demolitions and continual harassment.

4.2. Focus of monitoring in areas of origin only

Most humanitarian actors interviewed assert that most IDPs remain in areas under Israeli control and that too few IDPs flee to areas under Palestinian control to require monitoring in these areas. They assume that a move to Palestinian-controlled areas is essentially voluntary and that by fleeing to Palestinian-administered areas IDPs no longer require protection and assistance from humanitarian organisations.

This may be true in some cases but in many others IDPs who have fled to areas under Palestinian control urgently need humanitarian assistance and are incapable of achieving durable solutions to their displacement. Such a situation was apparent in Ibzik, a Bedouin community located in Tubas. The 21 families have traditionally been transhumants, grazing their flocks near Jenin during the summer and over-wintering in Ibzik. Every year since the early 1990s, they have received demolition orders. During the last few years, homes and water tanks have been demolished and tractors confiscated. In 2014, three families decided to leave the area for good, worn out by the Israeli military presence and continuous threats and fear. Two families went to Hebron, another resettled close to Jenin.

“ We used to own around 70/80 goats and sheep. We sold most of them so we could buy this piece of land on which we now live. We try to make a living from the milk and cheese of the fifteen goats we have left, but it's difficult. One of my sons works in Israel and earns about 100 shekels a day (about \$26). Three of my children cannot work because they have mental disabilities and my husband who has become blind cannot work either. He needs surgery for his eyes but we don't have the money to pay for it. We have received a few visits from NGOs. They made a lot of promises but have never come back.⁴³

IDMC heard how such cases are becoming more and more common in the region. People tend not to talk about their intention to leave and one day simply vanish.

The plight of IDPs can go unnoticed even when they have been previously noted as living in communities at risk of displacement. A striking example is the forced displacement of the entire population of Khirbet Qassa in 2007. For nearly 60 years around 250 Palestinian refugees, lived in Qassa, making a living from raising sheep and goats. The construction of the southern segment of the barrier that started in 2004 left the entire village cut off from the rest of the West Bank. The Civil Administration imposed strict movement restrictions, preventing inhabitants from accessing traditional grazing grounds on the other side of the barrier. In mid-2006, the IDF started sending demolition warnings, alleging that their dwellings had been built without permits. About a year later, the entire village was demolished and the population forcibly moved to the other side of the barrier.

“ On 29 October 2007, they came at eight in the morning, pushing us aside and destroying our dwellings and animal pens. They loaded our water containers and fodder onto a truck and took them to the other side of the barrier. Once the bulldozers had finished their work, we were told that we had 24 hours to leave. The demolition attracted a lot of attention. Journalists came as well as the Red Cross and some NGOs. They provided us with tents, water tanks and fodder. But then the Israeli army came back. They put us in their military vehicles and drove us away. That's how we ended up in Idhna. We have been here for eight years now and haven't been able to access the grazing lands we used to go to. It means that we mostly rely on fodder, which is so expensive that some of us end up selling goats to cover our debts. And then? Only God knows how they will survive.⁴⁴

Some twelve families who have been evicted from Qassa live now in Idhna. While they used to have access to sufficient pastures they have been forced to adapt to a more urban way of life. They have become highly dependent on expensive fodder – a ton costs 1,800 shekels (c. \$475). Many have no other choice except to borrow money and end up in a vicious cycle of indebtedness.

Despite such ongoing protection and assistance needs, the situation of IDPs who live in protracted displacement in Palestinian-controlled areas is not captured by any current monitoring tools.

The case studies indicate that the situation of IDPs who live in protracted displacement in Palestinian-controlled areas is not captured by any current monitoring tools.



Ruins of a Palestinian house in the village of Al Nu'man, east of Beit Sahour. © Activestills/Anne Paq, December 2010

Those who are forced to leave their usual place of residence to find refuge in areas under Palestinian control often become more invisible. The only aid for IDPs that exists in Palestinian-controlled areas of the West Bank is provided by WFP, UNRWA and the Ministry of Social Affairs (MoSA). Their immediate nutritional needs are generally met but there are no indicators to assess IDPs' long-term needs and prospects for finding durable solutions to their displacement.⁴⁵

4.3. Focus on prevention of displacement

4.3.1. Vulnerability profiling in Israeli-administered areas only

In addition to the monitoring tools assessed above, a series of mechanisms have been developed to monitor the living conditions of Palestinians residing in areas under Israeli control. Their vulnerabilities caused by the lack of access to basic facilities force some of them to leave their habitual place of residence to go find refuge where they will be able to access basic facilities. In other words, what is being monitored are the vulnerabilities of those who are at risk of displacement, rather than the vulnerabilities in displacement.

In order to allow the clusters to formulate more adequate and targeted response plans and subsequently to push

back the phenomenon of displacement, OCHA and its partners launched a Vulnerability Profile Project (VPP) in 2013. This inter-agency tool was designed to generate baseline data on a range of humanitarian indicators related to eight different sectors, which are education, health, access to land, agriculture, Water Sanitation and Hygiene (WASH), protection, settler violence and shelter. The VPP is the most comprehensive data collection tool about the humanitarian needs of the communities at risk of displacement in and from areas under Israeli control.⁴⁶

In 2014, Gruppo Volontariato Civile (GVC), an Italian NGO, set up a database to assess the needs and vulnerabilities of its beneficiaries. The geographical location is a very determining indicator to measure vulnerability, especially for the communities located near several settlements. The database attempts to capture multiple types of obstacles, such as the lack of services, the demolitions, or the price of fodder, in order to improve protection interventions.⁴⁷

In 2010, ACF set up a GIS that identifies the material needs related to roads, water and electricity infrastructure, housing, clinics, schools and animal shelters. These needs are measured on the basis of emergency needs. A post and ante displacement database linked to the GIS was created in 2012.

Civil society actors also focus on communities at risk of forced displacement in Israeli-administered zones.



The Atiyah family have 6 children (4 girls and 2 boys). Their house, built in 1983, has had a demolition order since 1993.
© Activestills/Anne Paq, December 2010

B'Tselem has developed its own GIS with base maps from Civil Administration and created its own vulnerability database that will cover the historical facts of about 60 communities living under threat of displacement. The objective of this tool is to gather historical facts for accurate documentation and efficient follow up of demolitions and confiscations of livelihood structures.⁴⁸

All in all, this database resumes the same information as those encoded in the databases mentioned hereinabove and does not provide sufficient and comprehensive data to seize the full picture of the phenomenon of forced displacement in Palestine context since it excludes the areas under Palestinian control from its attention. The VPP does not specifically look at the vulnerabilities and needs of those who have already been displaced and potentially fled to Palestinian-administered areas; while ACF does not systematically track its beneficiaries to the location where they might have moved but mainly collects historical facts linked to the circumstances of the demolition of their houses and/or livelihood structures, the material and legal assistance needed and provided.

4.3.2. Protection mechanisms

Vulnerability profiling exercises established by OCHA, GVC and B'Tselem allow planning of interventions to assist communities at risk of being displaced. Jinba in the

southern Hebron hills is one of the communities where international aid has largely contributed to supporting resilience and enabled communities to remain in their place of habitual residence. Located within the Masafer Yatta Firing Zone g18, the community has been threatened with demolitions since 1967. Despite military incursions and settler violence the community has remained steadfast.

“ In 1985, our village that we had been rebuilding was again demolished and we were forced to move to Bir al 'Idd for the second time. From 1988, the Civil Administration regularly demolished our homes in Bir al 'Idd and confiscated our agricultural equipment. In 1998, the entire site was demolished and most of us moved back to Jinba. Whenever the IDF request that we leave for a few days so they can carry out military training we try to resist. We hold a land ownership document dating from the Ottoman period, which proves that we own over 15,000 dunums (15 square kilometres). Thank God we have received a lot of support from organisations and now we have everything we need here.⁴⁹

Specific protection mechanisms have been developed to prevent Palestinians from being displaced. In order to assist the work of the protection shelter in early 2015 a consortium was established. Led by NRC – and including

ACF, ACTED, PU-AMI and GVC – it seeks to contribute to the protection of Palestinians from forced displacement in the areas of the West Bank under Israeli control. Core activities include providing material and legal assistance, reinforcing community mobilisation, conducting political advocacy and responding to property damage caused by house and livelihood structure demolitions, evictions and settler violence. Responsibilities for each component are shared and there is liaison with relevant clusters. After an incident, there are three monitoring visits, the final one up to six months after the forced displacement. Subsequently there is no further systematic case monitoring.

The Community Eyes Watch (CEW) warning system was established by PU-AMI in 2013 in 27 villages in the northern West Bank. Committees are responsible for sending alerts to local authorities and protection NGOs when acts of violence occur. These alerts are then forwarded to the Palestinian District Coordination Office (DCO) who pass them on to the Israeli DCO, effectively a soldier in the Israeli army in charge of administrative functions. Victims of demolitions receive tents and relief kits from the Palestinian Red Crescent Society within the first 48 hours following the incident.⁵⁰

Humanitarian actors provide emergency assistance for up to 90 days. Support includes legal aid, material rehabilitation such as re-connecting water pipes and electricity. ACTED provides cash assistance for those who need to replace lost personal belongings. ACF provides the household members with a caravan that has a longer lifespan than tents and hence can be used for several years rather than only for the three months duration of the response. Hence, the emergency humanitarian intervention is also about strengthening people's resilience while sometimes, after the 90 days emergency response has been provided, some households or individuals might still lose their resilience and make the decision to move to Palestinian-controlled areas.

Obtaining building permits in area C, or expanding houses to accommodate growing families, is so fraught with virtually insurmountable difficulties, that many Palestinian families are forced to abandon their homes and seek refuge in Palestinian controlled areas. This policy – judged by many informants to be a deliberate promotion of “de-development”⁵¹ – is another poorly understood trigger of displacement. Although Israel has a legal obligation to give prior notice of demolitions at times they are carried out without warning.

“ They arrived at seven in the morning, just after my husband had left for work and just before the kids went to school. We didn't get any demolition order. They just showed up and completely took us by surprise. The bulldozer ravaged everything. We

*went to spend the first night at my brother's place in Yatta, waiting to find a solution. Our living conditions have worsened day by day. That's how two years have passed with no one knowing that we are here.*⁵²

5

Conclusion

Historically, most humanitarian organisations in Palestine have tended to react to, rather than try to prevent, displacement. They have also lacked the data needed to ensure a coordinated emergency response.⁵³

Since 2008, local and international stakeholders have put in place a wide range of mechanisms to monitor incidents of land grabbing and demolitions and enable responses to the needs of communities at risk of displacement. Databases, GIS systems, advocacy tools and protection mechanisms have sought to protect Palestinians from being displaced.

Many remain unaware of the realities of displacement, not realising that significant, and probably growing, numbers of Palestinians are forced to move from areas under full Israeli administrative and military control to Palestinian-controlled areas. If they do, it is assumed that their protection and assistance needs are diminished as their access to social services improves within areas under Palestinian control. Many actors go so far as to question the forced nature of their migration. Others wrongly assume that the number of people affected is so minor that it does not warrant a separate humanitarian response. Also some international informants expressed doubts whether monitoring and service provision in Palestinian-controlled area is feasible because of lack of capacity and willingness of the local authorities to follow up the files of IDPs.

The humanitarian community has demonstrated significant capacity and willingness to tackle internal displacement from Israeli-controlled areas. Unfortunately the continuing focus is on evictions and demolitions, not other causes of displacement. Monitoring and responses need to acknowledge multiple triggers of displacement and their consequences.

5.1. Justifications for a more holistic monitoring

This paper has demonstrated evidence to contradict the assumption that few Palestinians are forced to move from Israeli-controlled areas to areas under Palestinian control. Not only are there households who are forcibly displaced to locations which are not currently targeted by humanitarian interventions, but, most importantly, some of them end up in precarious living conditions because they have no coping strategies or have exhausted them. Except for programmes run by WFP, UNRWA and MoSA

that provide humanitarian aid in Palestinian-controlled areas – and which do not specifically target IDPs – there is no assistance to vulnerable people living in areas under Palestinian control.

Many triggers of displacement are not taken into consideration. In addition to demolitions and evictions, movement restrictions, lack of access to basic facilities and land, military training, settler violence and difficulty in obtaining building permits were routinely mentioned by IDP informants. The only IDPs who are monitored and benefit from material and legal assistance are those facing situations of demolitions and evictions. The lack of a systematised monitoring mechanism makes it difficult to track families who have been forced to move because they have exhausted all their coping strategies and resilience. They tend to either move to relatives and subsequently become a burden on host communities or, if more fortunate, sell whatever they have left and attempt to buy a piece of land. Such un-noticed IDPs are highly vulnerable.

The development of a more accurate database on internal displacement that would include areas under Palestinian control would also have the added benefit of providing monitoring and a form of evaluation on the effectiveness of the current response to communities at risk of displacement. It would also frame the humanitarian response in more holistic terms responding both in terms of upholding the rights of Palestinians in the face of the violations leading to their displacement and their consequences particularly the needs that may arise from protracted displacement.

5.2. Willingness and capacities of local authorities

Evidence gathered in the course of field research with representatives of the municipalities of Tubas, Hebron, Yatta, Samu'a and Idhna proves that there is not only willingness but also clear potential for collaboration with municipal authorities throughout the West Bank to monitor IDP arrivals in Palestinian-controlled areas and continue to assess their needs.

Some governorates, like Tubas, carry out an annual census⁵⁴ and are well connected to the heads of village councils and community leaders in the region who know almost by name all the people who were forced to move from Al Aqaba (area under Israeli control) to Tayasir (area

under Palestinian control) and from Al Maleh to Tubas. They expressed their readiness to consolidate all the information they have about these IDPs and to start listing systematically current and future cases of forced displacement.⁵⁵

The partition of Hebron into the Israeli-controlled H2 area and the H1 area under Palestinian control has complicated monitoring. Local Palestinian stakeholders, while aware of the extent of recent displacement, are unable to provide details. They want systematic monitoring of all those who have left H2 for H1 since a settler massacred 29 Palestinians in the Ibrahimi mosque in 1994⁵⁶ and who continue to leave.

In comparison to Hebron, both Yatta and Idhna municipalities are less well connected to international NGOs active in the southern Hebron hills but are not necessarily less conscious of the phenomenon of forced displacement. Here too local authorities expressed a clear understanding about the necessity to track the whereabouts and needs of displaced people.⁵⁷ Yatta municipality has already begun to survey their IDP population and use field coordinators to identify and access IDPs.

Likewise, Al Samu'a municipality tracks violations occurring in their municipality that comprise areas both under Israeli and Palestinian control. They have a comprehensive list of families that have been affected by the occupation and that they plan to re-contact to find out within which area they have been displaced. This will allow them to begin a registration process and ensure the provision of services.

5.3. How stakeholders might work together to address monitoring gaps

In order to generate comprehensive data on the number, whereabouts and needs of IDPs in occupied Palestine, existing structures could be adapted to address data gaps identified above. OCHA's incidents database could be further developed in order to include all triggers of displacement and monitor all of oPt, including areas under Palestinian control. The vulnerability profiling indexes (VPP) could also be extended to those areas in order to provide disaggregated vulnerability data.

Palestinian stakeholders have started to develop monitoring tools, which could form the basis for dialogue and cooperation on internal displacement. The Ministry of Local Government (MoLG) launched a spatial information system (called the GeoMOLG) in 2013. The GIS of the Wall and Colonisation Commission Information Centre of the Palestinian Authority (often referred to as the Wall and Colonisation Portfolio) and the GIS of the Applied Research Institute Jerusalem (ARIJ) are other initiatives. All three are accessible to various INGOs. They comprise spatial information on such components of Israeli-controlled areas as urban master plans, cadastral plans, political classifications, administrative boundaries, facilities and services locations. They graphically demonstrate the consequences of Israeli territorial planning in the West Bank and already serve as reference tools to humanitarian stakeholders for the implementation of vulnerability profiling and subsequently for planning of protection interventions.

Possible/proposed monitoring system



Registration of IDPs should be done by municipalities and community leaders in areas A and B using a standardised reporting format. Data should be disaggregated by gender, age, displacement history, location, living conditions and education. They should pass data to consortium members (NRC; PU-AMI; GVC; ACF; ACTED) and their local partners.



Data should be verified on a monthly basis (through visits or phone calls) and consolidated through a lead agency and entered in a centralised database. Distribution of responsibilities could be as follows:



Management, overall consolidation of data and analysis could be led by NRC (full editing rights)



Dissemination of data by OCHA

6

Recommendations

The humanitarian community should:

- address all triggers of internal displacement, not simply gather data on demolitions and evictions
- develop a common IDP approach and work towards finding a consensus on the definition of an IDP in accordance with the Guiding Principles
- expand vulnerability profiling and its indicators to communities in situations of displacement, not only prior to displacement;
- expand provision of post-displacement emergency assistance past the 90 days current response termination
- extend monitoring of IDPs to all the oPt, including areas under Palestinian control
- engage Palestinians authorities, particularly at the municipal level, building their capacity to monitor
- urge donors to support a UDOC assessment of needs and services and consider developing questions on internal displacement to be included in the Palestinian national census in 2017.

Palestinian local authorities should:

- collect data about individuals and households forced to move to areas under Palestinian control
- collaborate with other humanitarian stakeholders by notifying them of the whereabouts and needs of IDPs and by systematically granting them access to tools such as GeoMOLG

The donor community should:

- reformulate priorities in order to complement recovery and development projects for Palestinian IDPs
- ensure support reaches not only those at risk of displacement but also currently displaced.

Appendix

Annex I: Questionnaire – key informants

Date	
Governorate	
Area	
Locality	
Name of key informant	
Role of key informant	
Phone No.	
1. What is your definition of IDP?	
2. Do IDPs refer to themselves as IDPs?	Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No <input type="checkbox"/>
3. How many IDPs are there in this area?	No.
What is the average percentage of the total population?	%
Where exactly are they?	
4. Have there been waves of displacement? If yes, when?	
5. From where to where have people moved?	
6. Were any of these movements temporary? Or were they permanent?	
7. What was/were the reason(s) for the displacement(s)? <i>(Indicate a number to refer to the various displacements if displaced more than once)</i>	
<input type="checkbox"/> Eviction and land appropriation <input type="checkbox"/> Military incursions & clearing operations <input type="checkbox"/> Illegal expansion of settlements & related infrastructures <input type="checkbox"/> Illegal construction of the Wall <input type="checkbox"/> Violence & harassment by settlers <input type="checkbox"/> Revocation of residency rights in East Jerusalem <input type="checkbox"/> Discriminatory denial of building permits & house demolitions <input type="checkbox"/> System of closures & restrictions on the rights to freedom of movement <input type="checkbox"/> Voluntary transfer <input type="checkbox"/> Other	
8. What are their living conditions? What impact has their displacement had on them?	
Access to basic services	
Housing	
Roads	
Employment	
Water	
Electricity	
Education	
Health services	
Sewage system	
Security	

9. Who are the most vulnerable populations?
10. Does their vulnerability encourage them to leave or stay?
11. Who tends to stay in the area? Why?
12. Who tends to leave the area? Why?
13. What factors do you think attract(ed) IDPs to your area?
14. How do IDPs know whether or not there is any form of assistance to them and where?
15. How do you know when IDPs arrive to your area?
16. Who is it that the IDPs refer to as soon as they arrive to this area?
17. What assistance do they receive upon their arrival in this area?
18. Who provides the assistance?
19. Do you think that this assistance is sufficient and adequate? What are the gaps?
20. Are you involved in the coordination of the services for the IDPs? If yes, how? Would you like to be more involved? How do you think the system could be improved?
21. Do you feel confident that when IDPs arrive they will receive assistance?
22. What factors would need to improve for IDPs to consider a return to previous location?
23. How are the relationships btw IDPs and host communities over time?
24. What are the benefits or costs of the IDP population to the host community?
25. How do you define IDP integration?
26. What do they understand by local integration?
27. What is the ownership status for the majority of IDP settlements in the area?
28. What kind of options do these IDPs have to access durable tenancy of land?
29. What do you think could be a durable solution for the displaced populations?

Annex II: Questionnaire – IDPs

Date	
Governorate	
Area	
Locality	
Name of IDP	
Status	F <input type="checkbox"/> M <input type="checkbox"/> Head of household <input type="checkbox"/> Adult <input type="checkbox"/> Child <input type="checkbox"/>
1. How many times have you been displaced?	Once <input type="checkbox"/> 3 times <input type="checkbox"/> Twice <input type="checkbox"/> More <input type="checkbox"/>
2. When?	
3. From where to where?	
4. Were any of these movements temporary?	Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No <input type="checkbox"/>
5. What was/were the reason(s) for the displacement(s)? (Indicate a number to refer to the various displacements if displaced more than once)	
<input type="checkbox"/> Eviction and land appropriation <input type="checkbox"/> Military incursions & clearing operations <input type="checkbox"/> Illegal expansion of settlements & related infrastructure <input type="checkbox"/> Illegal construction of the barrier <input type="checkbox"/> Violence & harassment by settlers <input type="checkbox"/> Revocation of residency rights in East-Jerusalem <input type="checkbox"/> Discriminatory denial of building permits & house demolitions <input type="checkbox"/> System of closures & restrictions on the rights to freedom of movement <input type="checkbox"/> Voluntary transfer <input type="checkbox"/> Other	
6. Do you refer yourself as an IDP (why or why not?)	
Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No <input type="checkbox"/>	
7. How many are you in this area?	
8. What are your living conditions? What impact has your displacement had on you?	
Access to basic services	
Housing	
Roads	
Employment	
Water	
Electricity	
Education	
Health services	
Sewage system	
Security	
9. What factors attracted you to this area?	
10. Did you receive any type of assistance upon your arrival in this area? If yes, did you know you would and is that one of the reasons why you came here?	
11. If yes, what assistance have you received and from whom?	
12. Has this assistance been sufficient and adequate to meet your needs? If not, why?	
13. Has there been a time laps between the incident linked to your displacement and the assistance received?	

14. What was the duration of the assistance?
15. How are the relationships between you and the host community?
16. How do you define local integration?
17. What is the ownership status of your settlement in the area?
18. What kind of options do you have to access durable tenancy of land?
19. What factors would need to improve for you to consider a return to previous location?
20. What do you think could be a durable solution for the displaced populations?

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 35. OCHA Atlas, http://www.ochaopt.org/documents/ocha_opt_humaitarian_atlas_dec_2012_web.pdf
 36. IDMC interview with representative of OCHA, 5 May 2015
 37. OCHA's demolitions database (p. 14) mentions that it has information for and 2015. This refers to the information which is accessible online, otherwise OCHA has information as far back as mid-2008.
 38. With reference to the lack of consideration for other triggers of displacement house demolition and subsequent evictions in OCHA's demolition database, it is important to note that OCHA oPt invested significant human and financial resources in 2011 and 2012 in carrying out a large displacement research in all of oPt, precisely based on the understanding that demolitions are not the only trigger of displacement. The planning of the research and the shaping of the questionnaire was all done with the key displacement actors in the DWG. The findings of one element of the research, concerning East Jerusalem was presented at a PCWG session and a summary of findings shared with partners, demonstrating a large volume of displacement due to movement restrictions and residency restrictions.
 39. IDMC interview with staff of ACTED, 14 May 2015
 40. IDMC interview with staff member, OCHA, March 2014
 41. IDMC/NRC interview with an IDP, 8 June 2015
 42. NRC interview with IDP families, June 2015
 43. IDMC/NRC interview with an IDP, 2 June 2015
 44. IDMC/NRC interview with an IDP, 10 June 2015
 45. IDMC interviews with staff of MoSA and WFP, June 2015
 46. OCHA, *Area C Vulnerability Profile*, 2014, http://www.ochaopt.org/documents/ocha_opt_factsheet_5_3_2014_en.pdf
 47. IDMC/NRC interview with staff member, GVC, 8 June 2015
 48. IDMC/NRC interview with staff of B'Tselem, 27 May 2015
 49. IDMC/NRC interview with Jinba community leader, 9 June 2015
 50. IDMC interview with staff of PU-AMI, 12 May 2015
 51. De-development is a policy considered as preventing the Palestinian people from developing through the deliberate and systematic deconstruction of its economy by dispossessing and assimilating its land and resources. Source: IDMC/NRC interviews with Al Maleh and Al 'Aqaba community leaders, 3-4 June 2015. See: <https://electronicintifada.net/content/continuing-de-development-palestine/4045>
 52. IDMC/NRC interview with an IDP, 11 June 2015
 53. BADIL, Autumn 2008-Winter 2009, *op.cit.*, p.8.
 54. IDMC/NRC interview with Tubas governor, 1 June 2015
 55. IDMC/NRC interviews with Al Maleh and Al 'Aqaba community leaders, 3-4 June 2015
 56. IDMC/NRC interview with staff of Hebron municipality, 10 June 2015
 57. IDMC/NRC interview with officials from Idhna and Yatta municipalities, 9-10 June 2015

About IDMC

The Internal Displacement Monitoring Centre (IDMC) is the leading source of information and analysis on internal displacement. For the millions of people worldwide displaced within their own country, IDMC plays a unique role as a global monitor and evidence-based advocate to influence policy and action by governments, UN agencies, donors, international organisations and NGOs.

IDMC is part of the Norwegian Refugee Council (NRC), an independent, non-governmental humanitarian organisation.

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