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FOR MARYLAND

Impact of Foreign Assistance Cuts to the West Bank and Gaza

Working with United States Agency for International Development's implementing partners, Senator Van Hollen's office has prepared this snapshot of programs and partnerships impacted by these cuts in funding.

| Program Description (Brief) | Individuals / Households impacted | Staffing cuts |
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| <p>Catholic Relief Services (CRS) is the lead implementing organization for Envision Gaza 2020, a five-year, \$50M program in Gaza. The program has two main components.</p> <p>First, it provides emergency food and non-food items to vulnerable people through a network of private vendors. In addition to helping needy families, this aspect of the program is also designed to ramp up quickly to provide assistance to much larger numbers of people in the event of another conflict or other shock.</p> <p>Second, the program provides livelihood opportunities, especially for women and youth, through paid internships and apprenticeships and supports entrepreneurship through training and small start-up grants.</p> | <p>19,240 vulnerable households (impacting up to 134,680 individuals) not being served in the current emergency with food and non-food assistance (note, private donations coupled with very remaining USAID funds will allow CRS to serve 760 households through March 2019).</p> <p>CRS has received 157,000 applicants for short-term livelihoods opportunities. If funding were available, CRS would have 2,250 individuals placed in work opportunities at this time, who help to support up to 15,000 total family members. If the program is discontinued, placements of an additional 10,000 people will not occur. Also, 580 people won't receive entrepreneurship grants that they could use to start a business.</p> | <p>By the end of September 2018, CRS will have laid off 26 staff and all partner staff – 90 in total – will have been laid off. CRS will use remaining USAID funds to cover half the salary of four staff members through March; remaining salary for these staff and for program implementation will come from private donations.</p> |
| <p>International Medical Corps is the lead implementing organization for Gaza 2020: Health Matters, a five-year, \$50 million, USAID-funded program in Gaza. Under this project, consortium partners including CARE and Mercy Corps, work to improve emergency preparedness among local NGOs and community based organizations, and to improve their delivery and provision of primary and secondary health care to the Gazan people.</p> <p>The program has 22,000 direct beneficiaries to date and an estimated</p> | <p>16,000 women will lose out on clinical breast cancer treatment; 6,000 patients won't receive essential health services through Mobile Medical Teams. 6,000 patients will not receive essential surgical services through grants to local hospital partners. 4,000 pregnant and lactating women will not receive preventive and curative services for anemia. 4,000 people in marginalized communities in Gaza will not receive the Non-Communicable Disease screening and treatment. 3,000 children and their caregivers won't get</p> | <p>As of September, IMC will have only 30% of staff remaining, all working at significantly reduced 50% LOE.</p> <p>Mercy Corps's part of Gaza Health Matters will end by August 30, 2018.</p> <p>All remaining sub-granted projects under Gaza Health Matters will be discontinued in September 2018.</p> |

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| <p>200,000 indirect beneficiaries through health services and training provided through its 13-member local partner network in the non-governmental and community-based health sector in Gaza.</p> <p>If this program stops, much needed specialized hospital services with ~USD 1.5 million worth of hospital equipment for our key non-governmental hospital partners in Gaza will be lost.</p> | <p>child preventive and curative nutrition services for anemia and malnutrition. 1,350 patients with NCDs and women with post-partum depression, about 700 children with chronic diseases and epilepsy, and 260 children with chronic illness or physical disabilities and their caregivers won't receive the Psycho-social Support (PSS) services. 800 children with cerebral palsy and their caregivers will be deprived of community rehabilitation services</p> | <p>All partner organizations have received suspension letters and beginning in September Gaza Health Matters will be going through the process of closeout.</p> |
| <p>Mercy Corps is partnering with International Medical Corps on the Gaza Health Matters 2020 program, a \$50M, 5 Year program seeking to improve primary, secondary health services available at local NGO run facilities throughout the Gaza Strip, while also supporting emergency preparedness for anticipated humanitarian crisis from shocks or conflict.</p> <p>Mercy Corps is also the presumed awardee of a new USAID funded youth program entitled Positive Youth Engagement. The program, if allowed to proceed will serve more than 50,000 youth across the West Bank and Gaza to access services promoting better emotional well-being, life skills development and to begin planning for more positive and productive futures.</p> | <p>See IMC Gaza 2020: Health Matters summary above</p> <p>The Positive Youth Engagement program is intended to serve more than 50,000 youth ages 10-19 in Gaza and the West Bank. If no fund are made available, this program in its entirety will not proceed.</p> | <p>Due to lack of funds for in the Gaza Health Matters program, Mercy Corps has served notice to 15 people—about 40% of its staff in Gaza—in anticipation of the U.S. assistance cuts.</p> <p>If the Positive Youth Engagement program isn't funded, Mercy Corps and its' partners will not hire 40 staff in West Bank and Gaza, and 30 local community based organizations will not employ more than 100 local workers.</p> |
| <p>CARE partners with IMC and Mercy Corps on the Gaza Health Matters 2020 program to improve access and availability of quality care of 200,000 individuals, 120,000 of which are women and girls. This program in Gaza builds capacity of NGOs and community based organizations to receive and manage medical supplies, materials and equipment in order to be responsive to the needs of residents of Gaza and to be prepared for increasing services at times of crisis</p> | <p>See IMC Gaza 2020: Health Matters summary above</p> | <p>If funds are not released, will have to lay off 3 staff in August 2018 (15% of country office budget)</p> |

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| <p>American Near East Refugee Aid (ANERA) is responding to urgent water and sanitation and other basic community infrastructure needs such as health facilities and schools. To date under the project:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 17 water networks were installed and 7 water reservoirs were constructed • 5 communities have proper stormwater drainage systems • 140,770 people have improved access to drinking/domestic water • 7 schools were renovated/constructed • 1 health clinic was constructed, and, • 46 rural and marginalized communities were served. | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 344,152 people to date • 185,792 person days of employment created (equivalent to 9,290 short-term jobs) • Created 200,817 person days of employment opportunities (equivalent to 10,041 short-term jobs) <p>If the project funding were to continue, 71,000 additional people would benefit from water, sanitation, schools and other critical facilities.</p> | <p>Anera directly employs 51 people on the project.</p> |
| <p>Global Communities has submitted a proposal for \$9 million for Gaza WASH. It has not been awarded yet.</p> <p>Global Communities has partnered with WFP in the West Bank and Gaza since 2004 to improve the food security of the region's most vulnerable populations, including the elderly, the disabled, orphans and individuals from women-headed households. Working collaboratively with WFP and other partners, Global Communities conducts regular beneficiary assessments—with particular focus on households headed by women—to monitor food consumption patterns and track progress. These assessments, along with sex-disaggregated monitoring data, enable WFP to rely on a beneficiary profile database that factors in the socio-economic conditions and specific needs of men, women and children.</p> <p>In 2011, USAID began supporting WFP's electronic voucher program, implemented by Global Communities. This system allows participants to access food assistance through prequalified vendors in their communities, where vouchers may be redeemed for food rations.</p> | <p>Since 2013 an average of 193,000 vulnerable individuals reached each year in the West Bank and Gaza.</p> <p>An additional 22,000 Gazans were provided with life-saving rations during the 2012 air strikes.</p> | <p>Funding is awarded by WFP with USAID funds. Funding has been secured through October 2018. Funding was usually provided in six-month increments. However, since January 2018, funding has been in smaller increments.</p> |

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| <p>Lutheran World Federation, with the support of the Evangelical Lutheran Church in America, owns and operates Augusta Victoria Hospital (AVH). Over the last two decades AVH has transitioned from a general hospital to a highly specialized center for oncology and nephrology and now provides life-saving cancer treatment and pediatric hemodialysis for patients from the West Bank and Gaza. AVH is fully accredited by the Joint Commission International (JCI) based in Oak Brook, Illinois.</p> <p>AVH has received extensive support from USAID over the last decade in order to strengthen the hospital's cancer services. In 2016, AVH and USAID celebrated the inauguration of a new Bone Marrow Transplantation Unit, made possible by USAID assistance for equipment and intensive advanced training for AVH staff. Another major investment from USAID came in 2011 with the installation of a second medical linear accelerator at AVH, making it possible for AVH to increase the number of radiation therapy sessions for West Bank and Gaza patients and to keep pace with the growing needs.</p> <p>The Lutheran World Federation (LWF) also runs a Vocational Training Program (VTP) with centers in Jerusalem and the West Bank. This program, operating since 1949, empowers young women and men, builds civil society, and offers sustainable livelihoods through its training in numerous vocations, including carpentry, auto-mechanics, telecommunications, catering, and plumbing and central heating. USAID has also supported the VTP with assistance for renovations and program development.</p> | <p>As the primary medical facility providing cancer treatment for West Bank and Gaza patients and kidney dialysis for children from the West Bank, AVH is relied upon heavily. Augusta Victoria Hospital provided 22,349 radiation therapy sessions, 21,434 chemotherapy sessions, and 19,863 kidney dialysis sessions in 2017.</p> <p>The vast majority of the cancer and kidney patients treated by AVH are referred to AVH by the Palestinian Authority. Without the US assistance covering some of the costs of these vulnerable patients, AVH and other East Jerusalem hospitals will need to curtail or cut services, a potentially catastrophic interruption of services for individuals in need of treatment and an extremely disruptive situation for the overall health care system.</p> <p>In 2017, 885 students received training through the LWF vocational training program and 1,920 students benefitted from career guidance services provided by the VTP.</p> | <p>Augusta Victoria Hospital employs over 430 persons and is a substantial part of the local economy. Cuts in medical services could lead to cuts in medical staff and other staff providing psychosocial support for patients and their families.</p> |