# WEST BANK DEMOLITIONS AND DISPLACEMENT: AN OVERVIEW

## SEPTEMBER 2019

**OCHA** 

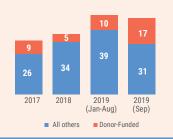


#### HIGHLIGHTS

- 42 per cent increase in demolitions since the start of 2019 compared to same period in 2018
- New demolitions in a south Hebron 'firing zone', exacerbate risk of forcible transfer.
- 17 donor-funded structures demolished or seized and three placed at risk.

### STRUCTURES DEMOLISHED/SEIZED

**Monthly Averages** 



#### **AUGUST FIGURES**

East Jerusalem	13			
Area C	35			
Area B	0			
Area A	0			
PEOPLE IMPACTED				
Displaced	36			
Affected	1,103			

ASSISTANCE DEMOLISHED/ SEIZED IN 2019



# **OVERVIEW**

In September 2019, the Israeli authorities demolished or seized 48 Palestinian-owned structures, displacing 36 people, including 16 children, and otherwise affecting the livelihoods or access to services of over 1,100 others. All but one structure were demolished or seized due to the lack of building permits, which are nearly impossible for Palestinians to obtain. While the number of structures targeted this month is nearly the same as the monthly average since the start of 2019, the cumulative figure so far this year is 42 per cent higher than for the same period in 2018.

Seventeen of the structures demolished this month had been provided as humanitarian assistance, including 13 by the EU and its member states. A total of 97 donor-funded structures have been targeted so far this year, a three-fold increase compared to the equivalent period of 2018 (32). Another three donor-funded structures, including a school and a kindergarten, worth over 50,000 euros are at risk of demolition, after receiving stop work orders in September.

Three quarters of the structures demolished or seized in September, including all donor funded structures, were located in Area C, with the remaining quarter located in East Jerusalem.

Near the Khirbet 'Atuf community (Tubas), in Area C, the Israeli authorities demolished five water cisterns used for irrigation, cut down 240 olive trees and damaged another 220 forestry trees. Part of these properties were donor-funded as part of a livelihood-support project. The project was located on privately-owned land in an area designated by the Israeli authorities as a 'nature reserve'. Under Israeli regulations, the cultivation of land and grazing of livestock in such reserves, which cover some 17 per cent of Area C, is severely restricted; this restriction exacerbates the fragmentation of the West Bank and the coercive environment exerted on vulnerable communities.

Another nine structures in Area C, including seven provided as humanitarian assistance, were located in three herding communities in the Massafer Yatta area

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United Nations Office for the Coordination of Humanitarian Affairs occupied Palestinian territory

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of Hebron, lying within an area declared closed for military training ('firing zone' 918). In recent years, a total of 14 communities located in this area (some 1,300 people) have been subjected to a range of policies and practices that have undermined their physical security and sources of livelihood, and which heighten the risk of forcible transfer from the area. About 20 per cent of all structures targeted so far in 2019, and a third of all donor-funded aid structures, were located in firing zones, which cover about 30 per cent of Area C. These demolitions and seizures resulted in the displacement of over 200 Palestinians and otherwise affected almost 3,100 others.

In East Jerusalem, the municipality demolished 13 structures, including two adjacent under construction residential buildings intended to comprise 84 apartments, located in two communities (Al Wallaje and Al 'Eizariya) separated from the rest of the city by the Barrier. Municipal areas located on the 'West Bank' side of the Barrier have been largely abandoned by the municipality in terms of services. During two incidents in Al 'Eizariya and At Tur, clashes erupted between the affected people and the Israeli forces, leading to physical injuries and detentions of Palestinians.

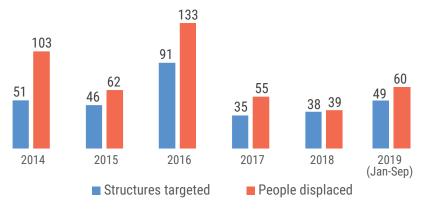
## **ANNEX I: WEST BANK DEMOLITIONS / SEIZURES / SEALINGS - SEPTEMBER 2019**

	Structures demolished	People displaced*		People Affected**	
		All	Children	All	Children
East Jerusalem	13	9	3	148	85
Area C	35	27	13	955	159
TOTAL	48	36	16	1,103	244

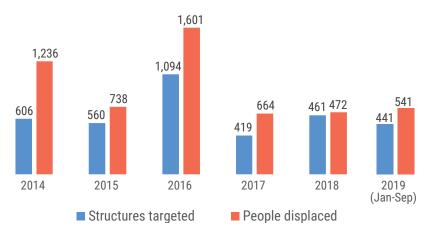
\* Includes all people who had a structure used as their habitual place of residence demolished.

\*\* Includes all people who had any of their property, other than their residence, demolished. Displaced and affected are mutually exclusive categories, i.e. people counted under the former are not included in the latter.

# STRUCTURES TARGETED AND PEOPLE DISPLACED-MONTHLY AVERAGES



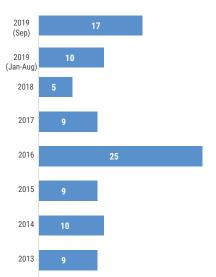
# STRUCTURES TARGETED AND PEOPLE DISPLACED-TOTALS



# **ANNEX II: DEMOLITION/SEIZURE OF DONOR-FUNDED STRUCTURES - SEPTEMBER 2019**

Date	Community	Governorate	Type of structure	Number of structures	Type of incident	Estimated cost in Euros
25 September	Deir Ballut	Salfit	Livelihood tent (incl. 50 m fence)	1	Demolition	1,345
12 September	Khirbet 'Atuf	Tubas	Water cistern	4	Demolition	9,500*
11 September	Umm Fagarah	Hebron	Residential shelter	4	Demolition	9,200
11 September	Khallet Athaba'	Hebron	2 residential shelters & 1 mobile latrine	3	Demolition	4,995
11 September	A Seefer	Hebron	Construction materials for residential structure	0	Seizure	2,060
2 September	Nahhalin	Bethlehem	Livelihood tent (incl. livelihood equipment)	5	Seizure	8,797
Total				17		35,897

\* The cost of one of the four donated cisterns is not available as of the time of writing.



#### MONTHLY AVERAGE DONOR-FUNDED STRUCTURES TARGETED

Total donated structures targeted in 2019



## ANNEX III: DONOR-FUNDED STRUCTURES TARGETED BY ISRAELI SETTLERS - SEPTEMBER 2019

Date	Community	Governorate	Type of structure	Number of structures	Type of incident	Estimated cost in Euros
25 September	Abu George Kassarat community	Jerusalem	Kindergarten	1	Stop-work order	21,452
18 September	Um Sidra	Hebron	School classrooms & 1 latrine (incl. school yard and fence)	2	Stop-work order	29,367
Total				3		50,819