



**\$43.8 MILLION** ESTIMATED AUSTRALIAN ODA 2017-18

**US\$3,090 (2014)** GROSS NATIONAL INCOME PER CAPITA\*

**4.3 MILLION (2014)** POPULATION\*

The Palestinian Territories (PTs) - consisting of the West Bank and Gaza - is one of the poorest regions in the Middle East. Australian aid is a tangible demonstration of our longstanding support for the Middle East peace process.

### Strategic direction

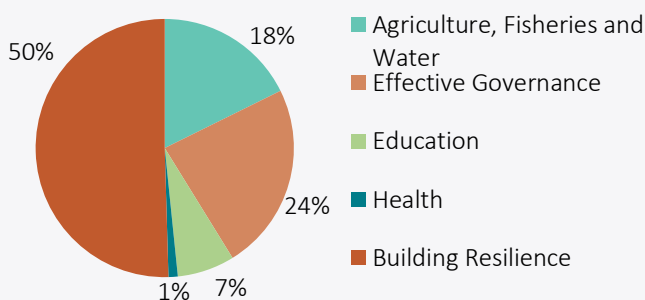
Australia has a long history of supporting Palestinians. Our aid program focuses on economic growth in the PTs and basic services for refugees in the PTs and the region. Our Aid Investment Plan aligns with the Palestinian Authority's (PA) National Development Plan. Our program has two objectives: (1) improved public financial management for the PA and a more competitive agricultural economy; and (2) Palestinian refugees in the PTs and across the region being able to access quality basic services. Our work in the agriculture sector contributes towards achieving the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development, particularly SDG number two - achieving food security and promoting sustainable agriculture.

Key features of Australia's aid program include:

- the Australia Middle East NGO Cooperation Agreement Phase 3 (AMENCA 3) to improve the competitiveness of the agriculture sector through Australian and local NGOs
- support to the PA's reform program including improved public financial management through the World Bank
- support to the UN's Relief and Works Agency (UNRWA) to assist Palestinian refugees access quality basic services in the PTs and across the region.

In 2017-18, Australia plans to provide 10 **Australia Awards** to students from the Palestinian Territories.

**Australian ODA to Palestinian Territories, by Investment Priorities 2017-18**



	2016-17 Estimated Outcome (\$m)	2017-18 Budget Estimate (\$m)
Country Programs	20.5	20.5
Regional	1.9	2.7
Global	20.6	20.6
Other Government Departments	-	-
<b>Total Australian ODA to Palestinian Territories</b>	<b>43.0</b>	<b>43.8</b>
<b>% of Total Australian ODA</b>	<b>1.1%</b>	<b>1.1%</b>

ODA = Official Development Assistance

### Program highlights

- Australian funding to UNRWA contributed to universal primary education for Palestinian refugee children, with 513,000 students (half girls) attending 692 schools in 2016.
- Hygiene promotion activities were provided by UNICEF to 70,000 students in 2016-17.
- Created additional agricultural production of \$80 million facilitated through our NGO program, AMENCA, in 2009-15.
- Awarded scholarships to 42 Palestinians (including 11 women) which helped build public sector management skills within the PA and legal expertise in universities since 2011.

### Key framework document

- [Australia's Aid Investment Plan for the Palestinian Territories 2015-19](#)

