



Programme of Assistance
to the Palestinian People

HIV and AIDS



Democratic Governance
HIV and AIDS

Poverty Reduction
Energy and Environment

Crisis Prevention and Recovery
Gender and Women Empowerment

HIV and AIDS

According to the Palestinian Ministry of Health, the official and reported cumulative number of HIV and AIDS patients in the West Bank and Gaza reached 63 cases, with a projected estimate of 200-500 people living with the HIV virus. While data and dynamics of HIV infection in time suggest low prevalence, in the absence of bio-behavior surveys among those most at risk and vulnerable, it is likely, especially in the context of the prolonged conflict in the West Bank and Gaza Strip that many cases go undetected. To date, there are 36 people living with HIV and 11 people are under ART. The majority of these cases are infections that have been contracted more than five years ago and are attributed to heterosexual transmission. However, increasing rates of HIV are reported among injecting drug users and migrant workers in Israel. The statistics do not include the HIV and AIDS cases reported in East Jerusalem, estimated to amount to 18 cumulative cases, which are notified to and followed up by the hospitals in Israel.

UNDP/PAPP, as co-sponsor of UNAIDS and as a trusted development partner in the oPt for over 31 years, is committed to addressing HIV and AIDS through prevention, care, treatment as well as stigma reduction and civil society enhancement. Within the Millennium Development Goals (MDGs) framework UNDP/PAPP is helping the oPt in meeting the MDG 6 of halting and reversing the spread of the epidemic by 2015.

In the absence of UNAIDS in the oPt, and as a key member of the UN Theme Group on HIV and AIDS, UNDP/PAPP provides substantive contribution to the UN and to the national coordination of the HIV and AIDS response but also provides technical assistance around HIV-related issues (HIV and AIDS general mainstreaming, HIV and AIDS national strategy and associated guidelines, treatment forecasting, human rights, civil society strengthening, etc.) by offering knowledge, resources and best practices from around the world.

Furthermore, in 2008, The Global Fund to fight HIV and AIDS, Tuberculosis and Malaria (GFATM) approved a comprehensive proposal, submitted by the UN Theme Group on HIV and AIDS, to scale up prevention, treatment and care services in the oPt for 5 years for US\$ 10,832,405. UNDP/PAPP is the Principal Recipient, legally bound to the Global Fund, responsible for the supervision and coordination of the overall programme.

Finally, UNDP/PAPP is leading the UN efforts with internal and external HIV related advocacy through communication materials and press releases and through the launch and promotion of the UN Cares programme in the oPt.