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Date completed: 28 October 2026

Forum: ACT Palestine Forum

Type of emergency: Conflict-related displacement, access restrictions and complex humanitarian emergency

Date of emergency (if rapid onset): Began 26 October 2026; ongoing as of 28 October 2026

1. The nature of the emergency

Hebron Governorate is currently facing an acute displacement crisis following the Israeli military operation launched on 23 October 2026 in the Deir Bahha and Al-Jilda areas of Hebron city, following a shooting incident at a military checkpoint near Hebron. Reports published through 28 October describe forced evacuations, neighbourhood closures, movement restrictions, home raids, and the destruction or damage of residential and commercial properties. The lockdown has severely impeded residents' access to their homes, livelihoods, healthcare, education, and other essential services. According to figures reported by WAFA on 26 October 2026, approximately 3,971 Palestinians from 619 families had been displaced, while many families struggled to find adequate alternative accommodation.¹ The occupied West Bank is experiencing a worsening humanitarian and protection emergency characterized by forced displacement, escalating settler violence, Israeli military operations, home demolitions, and increasingly severe restrictions on freedom of movement.

The current emergency must be understood within the wider context of escalating violence and systematic pressure on Palestinian communities throughout the occupied West Bank. ACT Palestine Forum (APF) has repeatedly raised concerns about settler attacks, military operations, restrictions on freedom of movement, and the growing threat of annexation. The extensive network of Israeli military checkpoints, roadblocks, and closures increasingly fragments Palestinian communities, restricts access to essential services, disrupts livelihoods, and obstructs humanitarian operations. OCHA's reporting on the West Bank documents the cumulative humanitarian impact of settler violence, displacement, property damage, and movement restrictions.²

The Israeli military operation in Deir Bahha and Al-Jilda, Hebron, has resulted in displacement, neighbourhood closures, property demolitions and restricted access to homes, livelihoods, healthcare and education. The affected area covers approximately 330 dunams and includes more than 495 housing units. Children, older people, persons with disabilities and people requiring regular medical treatment face heightened risks. These conditions underscore the need for targeted humanitarian assistance to address immediate needs and protect vulnerable households amid continued displacement and access restrictions.

In its reporting on the recent Hebron operation, the UN Human Rights Chief warned of the risk of ethnic cleansing amid the displacement of thousands of Palestinians.³ These developments underline the urgent need for humanitarian intervention and sustained international engagement to prevent further displacement and protect the rights of affected communities.

2. The impact and scale of the emergency

¹ WAFA, 26 October 2026, reporting on displacement in Hebron, including approximately 3,971 displaced Palestinians and 619 affected families: <https://english.wafa.ps/Pages/Details/176348>

² United Nations Office for the Coordination of Humanitarian Affairs (OCHA), Humanitarian Situation Report, 22 October 2026: <https://www.ochaopt.org/content/humanitarian-situation-report-22-october-2026>

³ United Nations in Palestine, West Bank: Hebron crackdown displaces thousands, Türk warns of ethnic cleansing, 27 October 2026: <https://palestine.un.org/en/325195-west-bank-hebron-crackdown-displaces-thousands-t%C3%BCrk-warns-ethnic-cleansing>

Based on APF's initial assessment and available humanitarian reports, this is a Medium-scale humanitarian and protection emergency in Hebron Governorate, within the wider escalation of displacement across the occupied West Bank. The situation remains ongoing, with urgent humanitarian needs and risks of further displacement.

The emergency is concentrated in the Deir Bahha and Al-Jilda areas of Hebron city, where military operations, neighbourhood closures, movement restrictions, and damage to residential and commercial properties have disrupted daily life and access to essential services.

Approximately 3,971 people from 619 families were reported displaced by 26 October 2026.⁴ Those affected include children, women, older people, persons with disabilities, and people requiring regular medical treatment. Detailed age- and gender-disaggregated figures remain unavailable and should be confirmed through local partners and the ongoing needs assessment.

Displaced families face loss of housing and belongings, disrupted livelihoods, overcrowded or inadequate shelter, and restricted access to healthcare, education, food, and other essential services. Families without alternative accommodation and those with specific medical or protection needs are particularly vulnerable. In the short term, the emergency increases the risks of homelessness, psychological distress, and deteriorating health. In the longer term, continued displacement, property destruction, and movement restrictions threaten livelihoods, children's education, family stability, and communities' ability to return home and rebuild.

An urgent response is needed to provide food parcels, hygiene kits, and basic medicine, prioritizing families with heightened vulnerabilities.

3. Local and national capacity

Displaced families are relying primarily on relatives, host communities, rented accommodation, and temporary shelters. However, many households face overcrowding, financial hardship, and difficulties accessing food, healthcare, and essential supplies. Some families remain unable to find safe accommodation.

The Hebron Governorate has established an emergency committee involving government and non-governmental institutions, local authorities, civil society, the private sector, and international organizations. The committee is registering displaced families, assessing damage, coordinating assistance, and distributing essential supplies. The municipality and community networks are also supporting affected households, although available resources remain insufficient to meet the scale of needs.⁵

The Palestinian Cabinet approved NIS 1.5 million in emergency support for Hebron through the Governorate and the emergency committee. It also approved health insurance coverage for displaced families through the end of 2026, based on need.⁶ While these measures provide important support, the scale of displacement and the reported needs for food, medicines, infant supplies and safe accommodation indicate that the assistance available remains insufficient to meet the affected displaced people's essential needs. Significant humanitarian needs persist, particularly among vulnerable households facing displacement, limited access to services and difficulties securing basic necessities. Additional financial and logistical support is therefore urgently needed to complement the ongoing response and reach families whose needs remain unmet.

OCHA reports that UN humanitarian partners are supporting local authorities in responding to the needs of more than 3,000 displaced people in Hebron. Existing humanitarian coordination mechanisms, including

⁴ WAFA, 26 October 2026, reporting on displacement in Hebron: <https://english.wafa.ps/Pages/Details/176348>

⁵ WAFA, 26 October 2026, 488 Palestinian families affected by the ongoing aggression in Hebron, says municipality: <https://english.wafa.ps/Pages/Details/176327>

⁶ WAFA, 27 October 2026, Cabinet approves NIS 1.5 million in emergency support for Hebron: <https://english.wafa.ps/Pages/Details/176388>

the Protection Cluster and WASH Cluster, support needs assessments, service delivery, protection monitoring, and response planning across the occupied Palestinian territory.

4. Key needs and gaps

Priority assessment: safe accommodation; food and essential household items; infant-care/hygiene supplies; access to medicines and continuing treatment; and accessible protection/psychosocial referrals. Distinguish people displaced from those confined at home. Update sex-age-disability data and accommodation, health, WASH, protection, education, livelihood and cash feasibility, while logging assistance to avoid duplication.

The immediate priorities in Hebron are safe accommodation, food assistance, clean water and sanitation, essential household items, medicines, continued medical treatment, infant-care supplies, and protection and psychosocial support. The families are unable to find safe accommodation. An earlier emergency committee snapshot, reported by The Jerusalem Post on 26 October 2026, identified 231 households needing food, 129 needing medicines, 107 requiring infant formula and diapers, and 126 needing shelter. Clothing, mattresses, blankets, and psychological support were also requested ⁷ These figures indicate urgent multisectoral needs, although the total unmet needs remain unverified.

Please indicate whether you are considering:

	Indicate your intention with an X below
Rapid Response Fund (<i>intended for small and medium scale emergencies</i>)	X
Appeal (<i>intended for large scale emergencies</i>)	

If you indicate an intention to launch an appeal, the secretariat will activate an Emergency Steering Committee meeting within two working days on receipt of this alert.

5. Forum Capacity and Members' Intention to Respond

ACT Member	Geographical focus	Sectors of expertise and experience
YWCA of Palestine	Deir Bahha and Al-Jilda, Hebron city;	community outreach and vulnerability screening; women/youth protection; people with disability protection; psychosocial referrals; coordinated basic-needs support.

6. Potential Responses

Proposed role: YWCA of Palestine will lead the implementation of a targeted emergency basic-needs response for vulnerable displaced households in Deir Bahha and Al-Jilda, Hebron. In coordination with the Hebron relief committee and ACT Palestine Forum, YWCA will identify and verify affected households, assess their priority needs, organize the procurement and distribution of essential assistance, and monitor delivery to ensure that households with the greatest unmet needs are reached without duplication.

Indicative response and target: YWCA of Palestine aims to reach up to 250 vulnerable displaced households through the provision of emergency food parcels, hygiene kits, and essential bedding or clothing for families that have not already received these items. Based on verified needs, YWCA will also procure essential medicines for affected individuals who lack access to necessary medication, coordinating with qualified health providers and licensed suppliers to ensure appropriate procurement

⁷ The Jerusalem Post, 26 October 2026, <https://www.jpost.com/middle-east/article-912917>

and distribution. Priority will be given to households lacking essential supplies and those facing additional vulnerabilities, including families with children, older people, persons with disabilities and people requiring regular medical treatment. Assistance will be tailored to verified household needs and coordinated with existing relief efforts to ensure that available resources address the most urgent gaps.

Delivery, timing and support required: YWCA requires funding support to answer the critical needs. YWCA will apply transparent vulnerability-based selection criteria, maintain household-level assistance records, and ensure safe and accessible distributions, safeguarding/PSEA, informed consent, data protection, accessible feedback and complaints mechanisms, and monitoring. Implementation will be coordinated with the Hebron relief committee and relevant humanitarian partners to verify assistance already received and avoid duplication. The response will be implemented over a period of up to six months. Support from the ACT Palestine Forum will include updated response mapping, humanitarian coordination, referral pathways, technical guidance, logistical and procurement support, and monitoring to ensure accountability and effective delivery.