

## Moving Stories

Responding to the crisis in Israel and the occupied Palestinian territories

The Palestinians' COVID-19 vaccination plan faces a £26 million funding shortfall, according to the World Bank.

Israel leads the world in its vaccine programme. The World Bank suggests that Israel should consider donating its surplus doses to accelerate the vaccine roll-out in the West Bank and Gaza.

The Palestinian Authority (PA) has a plan to cover 20% of its population through the COVAX vaccine-sharing programme, designed to aid the poorest nations. The PA is attempting to procure additional vaccines to achieve 60% coverage.

Cost estimates put the figure at about £50 million to cover 60 percent of the population. Currently, there is a shortfall of around gap \$£26 million. The World Bank has called for additional donor help.

The Palestinians began vaccinations in February, having received a small donation from Israel, and from Russia and the United Arab Emirates. The 32,000 doses received thus far fall short of the 5.2 million doses required for Palestinians living in the West Bank and Gaza, territory. Israeli officials insist that under the Oslo peace accords, the PA health ministry is responsible for vaccinating people in Gaza and parts of the West Bank where it has limited self-rule.

Palestinians and rights groups have accused Israel of ignoring its duties as an occupying power by not including the Palestinians in its inoculation programme.

The PA health ministry said on Friday that Israel had agreed to vaccinate 100,000 Palestinians who regularly cross into Israel for work.

Commitment for Life is determined to do what it can to assist the most vulnerable communities in the occupied territories and Israel. Because we are grateful for our own vaccines, we support the URC 'gratitude giving' page. Please do consider donating today.

Support our Vaccination Gratitude Giving Page

<https://events.tapsimple.org/page/christian-aid/united-reformed-church-supporting-a-just-vaccine-rollout>

 **United Reformed Church Giving Thanks for Our Vaccine**  
Online Giving Page  
In aid of Christian Aid



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WILLIAM YOUNG

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