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The Palestinian Central Bureau of Statistics (PCBS) and the Palestine Monetary Authority (PMA)

The Net Stock of the International Investment Position (IIP) amounted to USD 2,914 million at the End of the First Quarter of 2021

The Palestinian Central Bureau of Statistics (PCBS) and the Palestine Monetary Authority (PMA) announced the preliminary results of the International Investment Position (IIP), and External Debt statistics for Palestine as of end of the first quarter 2021.

The primary results of the IIP (external assets – foreign liabilities) for Palestine at the end of the first quarter 2021 revealed that the net IIP amounted to USD 2,914 million, increased by 2% compared with previous quarter, which means that the Palestinian economy's investments outside Palestine outweighs investments in Palestine from abroad.

66% of the total external assets of the Palestinian economy are currency and deposits, due to the absence of a Palestinian national currency

The total stocks of External Assets for Palestinian economy amounted to USD 8,327 million, the Foreign Direct Investment Abroad contributed to 3%, Portfolio Investments abroad reached 15%, while Other Foreign Investments Abroad (mainly currency and deposits) reached 73% and Reserve Assets amounted to 9%. At sectoral level, the external investments of banks sector represented a large share of the external assets, standing at 71% of the total value of external assets for Palestinian economy.

51% of the total foreign liabilities on the Palestinian economy are foreign direct investment

The total stocks of Foreign Liabilities in Palestine (stocks of non-residents invested in Palestine) amounted to USD 5,413 million, the Foreign Direct Investment in Palestine contributed to 51%, Portfolio Investments in Palestine reached 12%, and Other Investments in Palestine (mainly loans and deposits from abroad) amounted to 37%. At sectoral level, the foreign investments in banks sector contributed a major value in the foreign liabilities, represented by 36% of the total value of foreign liabilities on Palestinian economy.

An decrease of Stock of external government debt by 1%, to reach about USD 1.3 billion at the end of the first quarter 2021

The Gross External Debt on the Palestinian economic sectors reached USD 2,027 million decreased by 1% compared with previous quarter, the debt on government sector represented 64%, while debt on banks sector reached 33%, and debt on other sectors (non-bank financial corporations, non-financial corporations, NGOs and households sector) amounted to 2%, and the lending between affiliated companies reached less than 1%.

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The International Investment Position (IIP) is an accounting sheet that records the investments stocks for the residents in Palestine (individuals, institutions and government) invested in the rest of the world (abroad) under the name of (assets), and compares them to the investments stocks owned by residents outside Palestine (individuals, institutions and government) invested in Palestine under the name of (liabilities).

The Balance of Payments Manual - fifth edition, issued by the International Monetary Fund in 1993, divides the assets and liabilities into direct investment (investment by 10% and more in the non-resident capital), and portfolio investment (investment less than 10% in the non-resident capital as well as investment in bonds), and other investments. It divides these other investments into stocks of trade credit, loans, currency and deposits and any other assets or liabilities), in addition to the Reserve Assets, i.e. Stocks held by the Central Banks/ Monetary Authorities to address the imbalances in the balance of payments, it is worth mentioning that the reserve assets are only included in the asset side.

The External Debt is an accounting sheet that records the debt stocks on Palestinian economic sectors due to non-residents. These include (loans from non-residents, the deposits of the non-residents deposited in the banks sector in Palestine, the Palestinian bonds purchased by non-residents, debt transactions between the non-resident enterprises and fellow enterprises in Palestine. They encompass as well any other liabilities on Palestinian economy) the data of external debt have been extracted from the liabilities side in the international investment position matrix (debt items). Preparing, classifying and publishing of the data are based on (External Debt Statistics Manual) issued by IMF in 2003, this manual is harmonized with the fifth edition of Balance of Payments Manual.

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Table 1: International Investment Position (IIP) Stock by Economic Sectors for Palestine, at the end of the First Quarter, 2021

Value in million USD

Economic Sector				Other Sectors		
Investments Stocks by Type of Investment	Monetary Authorities (PMA)	Government Sector	Banks Sector	Non-bank Financial Corporations, Non-Financial Corporations, and NGOs Sector	House- Holds Sector	TOTAL
International Investment	1 204	007	2.007	202	000	2.014
Position (net)* Total External Assets	1,204	-986	3,987	-293	-998	2,914
	1,204	328	5,932	823	40	8,327
Foreign Direct Investment Abroad	0	0	0	247	8	255
Portfolio Investments Abroad						1
	87	0	820	379	0	1,286
Other Investments Abroad	383	328	5,112	197	32	6,052
Of which: currency and						
deposits**	383	0	5,069	34	32	5,518
Reserve Assets	734	0	0	0	0	734
Total Foreign Liabilities	0	1,314	1,945	1,116	1,038	5,413
Foreign Direct Investment in						
Palestine	0	0	1,007	696	1,038	2,741
Foreign Portfolio Investments in						
Palestine	0	0	268	383	0	651
Foreign Other Investments in						
Palestine:	0	1,314	670	37	0	2,021
Of which: loans from abroad	0	1,314	0	15	0	1,329
Of which: currency and						
deposits***	0	0	670	0	0	670

Notes:

- The data in the above table are close to the nearest integer.
- The data does not include the value of land owned by non-residents.
- * International investment position (net): equals total external assets minus total foreign liabilities.
- ** Currency and deposits: Include the residents deposits in banks abroad, in addition to foreign exchange in Palestinian economy.
- *** Currency and deposits: Include the deposits of non-residents deposited in resident banks.

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Table 2: Gross External Debt Position on Palestine, at the End of the Fourth Quarter, 2020 and First Quarter, 2021

Value in million USD

Economic Sector	Stock at the end of the Fourth Quarter 2020	Stock at the end of the First Quarter 2021
General Government	1,325	1,314
Short-term	120	125
Long-term	1,205	1,189
Monetary Authorities	0	0
Short-term	0	0
Long-term	0	0
Banks	684	670
Short-term	327	325
Long-term	357	345
Other Sectors	37	37
Short-term	22	22
Long-term	15	15
Direct Investment: lending between affiliated companies	6	6
Debt liabilities to affiliated companies	0	0
Debt liabilities to direct investors	6	6
Gross External Debt Position	2,052	2,027