

Middle East Situation

UNHCR revised Emergency Appeal for Lebanon

March–August 2026

Key Figures



1.4 million
people in need



733,000
unique individuals
targeted by UNHCR



US\$94 million
required

Overview

Since 2 March 2026, and despite ceasefire announcements, hostilities have escalated, including through strikes in South Lebanon, Nabatieh, Western Bekaa, and Beirut's southern suburbs, alongside repeated evacuation warnings affecting numerous towns and villages in the south. Security reporting indicates a high volume of military activity and a sustained risk of further escalation, with civilians, first responders, and civilian infrastructure increasingly affected. Ongoing insecurity and evacuation orders continue to drive non-linear population movements, as families undertake short return attempts before relocating again due to security concerns.

Around one million people remain displaced from southern Lebanon, the Bekaa, and Beirut's southern suburbs. Families continue to move in search of safety and shelter, with refugees being among those directly affected by attacks, evacuation orders, and displacement. Humanitarian needs remain acute as continued insecurity constrains access and limits prospects for safe and sustainable return. Shelter capacity remains under pressure, infrastructure damage continues to affect access to basic services,

and livelihoods have been disrupted, particularly among vulnerable households already facing economic hardship.

Under the leadership of the Government of Lebanon and the Minister of Social Affairs, and within the existing Lebanon Response Plan (LRP) framework, the Lebanon Flash Appeal - initially launched in March – was extended for a further three months (June to August 2026) to enable partners to rapidly deliver effective humanitarian assistance. The revised appeal calls for an additional **US\$ 331.5 million** to extend the ongoing multi-sector assistance to 1.4 million vulnerable people in need, totalling needs of **US\$639.9 million**.

Pursuant to the revised Flash Appeal, UNHCR has correspondingly revised its Emergency Appeal and urgently seeks US\$ 94.2 million in flexible funding to ensure continuity of assistance amid persistent displacement and instability. In line with its inclusive response approach, UNHCR plans to assist 733,000 individuals (unique) – Lebanese and non-Lebanese, including refugees – impacted by the hostilities.

Currently, the Lebanon Flash Appeal is only 60 per cent funded, with approximately US\$ 185.9 million received against the originally US\$ 308 million requested, while humanitarian needs deepen across shelter, food security, protection, health, and WASH sectors – as set out in the revised Lebanon Flash Appeal.

With internal displacement of both Lebanese and refugees, UNHCR plays a critical coordination as well as a response role within the sectors its co-leads, namely protection, shelter and core relief items, and cash assistance, while maintaining overall responsibility for the refugee response according to its mandate. UNHCR is also a member of the Solutions Working Group, led by the Resident and Humanitarian Coordinator.

To respond to urgent and growing humanitarian needs of displaced Lebanese and refugees, UNHCR, together with partners, is delivering lifesaving protection services, shelter support and core relief items (CRI), as well as cash assistance to cover basic needs like shelter, food and

medical costs and mitigate protection risks. UNHCR was able to immediately launch its emergency response on 2 March by leveraging existing community-based protection and operational infrastructures, to support both Lebanese and refugees fleeing from or remaining in areas under attack and evacuation orders. During the initial three months of the emergency response, UNHCR has focused on rapid protection monitoring and advice, distribution of core-relief items to displaced in and outside of collective shelters and shelter improvements including partitioning, emergency cash assistance, protection counselling and referrals of individuals with specific vulnerabilities, as well as community mobilization to support conflict-affected people regain dignity and agency. Over this period, UNHCR has reached more than 200,000 individuals with protection and assistance support. As needs and displacement surge across both refugee and Lebanese communities, UNHCR is, in line with the revised Flash Appeal, urgently responding with both area-based and individual protection and assistance support.

UNHCR Response in Coordination with the Lebanese Government



Protection

- **Provision of protection services and assistance**, such as case management (including child protection and Gender-Based violence (GBV), access to Mental Health and Psychosocial Support (MHPSS) and specialized services with a particular focus on displaced with specific needs such as disability or older age and complementary community-based support.
- **Reinforcing protection and border monitoring; feeding into protection trend analysis and protection mainstreaming**
- **Reinforcement of community structures and outreach** through Community Development Centres (CDCs) and mobile teams, receiving an increasing number of displaced refugee and Lebanese families, where information, counselling and psychosocial support is provided, and referrals to needed services are made.
- **Capacity support for the Ministry of Social Affairs**, including social workers in collective shelters, to support a sustainable and nationally-led response.
- **Emergency protection cash**, through a one-time grant of USD 150, to help address pressing protection concerns of the most vulnerable, directly impacted and displaced refugees.



Shelter (Including Core Relief Items)

- **Maintenance and minor repair of public buildings** serving as collective shelters, including partitioning, accessibility (for displaced with low mobility), as well as window, door and bathroom improvements to enhance dignity of living conditions.
- **Rehabilitation/repair of individual substandard shelters** to improve living conditions for vulnerable refugees and host community members residing in substandard shelters in return for tenure security arrangements.
- **Distribution of shelter kits and other improvements of shelters** for displaced staying outside of collective shelters
- **Provision of cash for rent for families** renting adequate shelters to enable displaced households to move out of collective shelters and to offset eviction risks and provide tenure security.
- **Provision of cash for shelter for families** hosted in adequate shelters, based on socio-economic and protection vulnerability.
- **Distribution of core-relief items for newly displaced families** (high-thermal blankets, sleeping mats, solar lamps, mattresses, and kitchen sets).



Multi-Purpose Cash Assistance

- **Emergency multi-purpose cash assistance (EMPCA)** for displaced refugees in complementarity with the Government’s Shock Responsive Safety Net (SRSN). This assistance is aligned with the SRSN’s methodology and comprise one off payments of up to USD 145 to households.

Financial Requirements by Sector for the Revised Flash Appeal (March–August 2026)

Sector	Financial Requirements (US\$ Million)
Protection (including response to violence against women and children)	18,673,713
Multi-Purpose Cash Assistance	17,196,013
Shelter (including core relief items)	58,366,000
TOTAL	94,235,726

The Importance of Flexible Funding

In this dynamic operational environment, flexible funding is vital for UNHCR to remain agile and ensure the response is efficient and adaptive in order to provide protection and assistance to the people who need it most. The financial requirements presented here are based on the current context and may be adjusted as the situation evolves.

To all donors, especially those who provide funding that is flexible and not earmarked for a particular use, UNHCR extends its most sincere thanks to Australia, Austria, Czech Republic, European Union, Finland, France, Germany, Iceland, Ireland, Italy, Netherlands, Norway, Republic of Korea, Sweden, Switzerland, CERF and private donors.

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