



*Since 23 September, thousands of people have crossed from Lebanon into Syria. UNHCR is scaling up support for the growing number of people displaced and re-displaced in both Lebanon and Syria. © UNHCR/Vadim Makeev*

# Lebanon Emergency

27 September 2024

## Context

A significant escalation of hostilities between Israel and Lebanon in recent days has newly displaced an estimated 120,000 people in Lebanon, and the number continues to rise. Some 700 people have died in the last five days, including more than 550 in a single day, and thousands are wounded. UNHCR is aware of 98 Syrians among the dead, of whom 46 were known to UNHCR, and more than 320 Syrians known to UNHCR have been injured. Since 23 September, UNHCR and its partner The Syrian Arab Red Crescent (SARC) estimate that some 30,000 people – around 80 per cent Syrians and 20 per cent Lebanese - have crossed the border from Lebanon to the Syrian Arab Republic (Syria).

## UNHCR Response

### Lebanon

The humanitarian consequences of the recent escalation in hostilities and intensified Israeli attacks across Lebanon are devastating, triggering huge displacement, increased vulnerabilities, and heightened protection risks. Displaced Syrians across Lebanon are facing difficulties in accessing collective shelters and are facing challenges in finding alternative accommodation, leaving some sleeping in public spaces.

UNHCR is:

- Ensuring the provision of protection assistance and services, with an emphasis on high-risk cases, including through case management, Emergency Protection Cash Assistance and access to specialized services (mental health and psychosocial support, safe shelter, legal and social services) and complementary community-based support;
- Distributing core relief items and hygiene kits for newly displaced people as the Basic Assistance Sector Lead in coordination with sector partners, and expanding the provision of multi-purpose cash assistance to affected vulnerable refugee families;
- Assessing sites and preparing collective shelters to accommodate newly displaced families;
- Working with the Lebanese Public Health Ministry and the World Health Organization to procure trauma kits and deploy UNHCR-prepositioned medical equipment in the current response;
- Enhancing access to critical health treatments for wounded refugees through an expansion of UNHCR's network of hospitals in the South and the Bekaa;
- Providing safe play, psychosocial support, and non-formal education activities in child-friendly spaces within collective shelters, available school buildings, and other safe spaces.

**Financial requirements until end-2025: \$520,057,198**

## Syria

The Syrian authorities have maintained open borders. On 25 September, the crowds at the main border crossing at Jdaidet Yabous (on the Syrian side of the crossing) had reduced but many are still making the journey. UNHCR and its partner SARC are verifying data on the number of Lebanese and Syrian families who have crossed the borders to Syria. Many displaced families - both Syrian and Lebanese - crossing to Syria have reportedly travelled to Homs, Damascus, Rural Damascus and Tartous Governorates.

UNHCR is:

- Present at the four border crossings that Syria shares with Lebanon and offering immediate support and assistance as well as information on available humanitarian services in the areas of return, including through more than 100 UNHCR-supported community centres across the country;
- Providing drinking water, snacks, mattresses, blankets, and hygiene kits at the Jdaidat Yabous border crossing point;
- Responding to the needs of new arrivals, including provision of relief items, food, and water as well as information on available services at UNHCR-supported community centres in the areas where they will be hosted;
- Providing legal assistance to new arrivals who lack the required identity and civil documentation to enter Syria or who face complex legal issues;
- Delivering hygiene kits and core relief items to areas of return.

**Financial requirements until end-2025: \$399,000,000**

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### **News and media:**

27 September – Briefing Note: [UNHCR: Attacks on civilians pile fresh misery on Lebanon](#)

27 September – Briefing Note: [UNHCR steps up to support displaced from Lebanon crossing into Syria](#)

25 September – Press Release: [UNHCR scales up support as people flee Lebanon for Syria](#)

**Links:** [Global Focus](#) | [Operational Data Portal](#) | [UNHCR Help](#)