



UNHCR
The UN Refugee Agency

LEBANON



LEBANON EMERGENCY FLASH UPDATE 11 October 2024

UN High Commissioner for Refugees Filippo Grandi (second right) and Lebanese Environment Minister Nasser Yassin (right) meet a displaced Lebanese family sheltering in a Beirut school. © UNHCR/Ximena Borrazas.



1.2M
affected
people in Lebanon
(source: GoL)

689,715
Internally displaced
people in Lebanon
(source: IOM/DTM)

100,879
new displacements
over the past week
(source: IOM/DTM)

185,291
registered IDPs in 923
collective shelters
(source: IOM/DTM)

Situation overview

- Over two weeks of continued Israeli airstrikes are resulting in significant displacement and exacerbating protection risks and needs of affected families. UN High Commissioner Grandi visited Beirut over the weekend to express his solidarity with Lebanon and mobilize support for all those affected, Lebanese and refugees.
- Lebanese authorities refer to 1.2 million people affected, while the joint IOM and UNHCR tracking shows that as of 7 October, **689,715 Lebanese and Syrian people** have been internally displaced in Lebanon (Source: IOM/DTM round 52).
- Since October 2023, UNHCR identified **34,000** refugees who are secondarily displaced, including **21,000** since 23 September only, **98%** being Syrian refugees.
- The **most urgent needs** are access to safe shelters, core relief items, healthcare, food, cash assistance, and protection services.
- To date, the latest hostilities have resulted in some **2,169 deaths and 10,212 injured**, according to the Lebanese Ministry of Health.
- Over **258,000 people** are estimated to have crossed from Lebanon to Syria since the escalation of hostilities, with around 70 per cent Syrians and 30 per cent Lebanese nationals.

Key highlights

- In support of the Government-led emergency response, the humanitarian community launched a **Flash Appeal** to enable partners to rapidly deliver humanitarian assistance. The appeal seeks **\$425.7 million to assist 1 million people** affected by the crisis over the next three months.
- As part of the Interagency response, UNHCR has released an Emergency Appeal for Lebanon, urgently seeking to \$111 million** to scale up the response and cover immediate needs across all vulnerable population groups, including Lebanese and refugee.
- UNHCR Emergency Appeal for Lebanon includes increased requirements for **procurement and distribution of core relief items, cash assistance and support to institutions in the response.**
- UNHCR continues calling on all actors to maintain and apply humanitarian principles and allow **equal access to assistance.**



UNHCR RESPONSE

On 1 October, UNHCR declared an **internal Level 3 Emergency for Lebanon and Syria** to scale up its response efforts and coordination on the ground. UNHCR continues to respond to the needs of refugees and Lebanese displaced across Lebanon, coordinating closely with the authorities and other humanitarian organizations, and providing **protection services, emergency cash assistance, core relief items, access to safe shelter, health care, and psychosocial support.**



Protection

- Since 20 September, nearly **40,000 people** have followed the new **UNHCR Lebanon WhatsApp Channel** to receive messages on awareness and security, rising scam risks, and emergency resources; separately, the **HELP Lebanon** website has received over **280,000** visits, including **46,000** visits to the dedicated emergency page launched 1 October.
- UNHCR continues to process an **observed uptick in claims** from refugees and Lebanese IDPs through its **complaint and feedback mechanisms**, including **8,000** average daily calls to the National Call Center and **650** daily messages to the Online Contact Form.
- UNHCR continues to ensure the **provision of protection assistance**, with emphasis on high-risk cases and access to specialized services (safe shelter, legal and social services) and complementary community-based support.
- In areas not directly affected by bombardment, UNHCR continues to operate and support **community centres for safe 'one-stop-shop'** support services and activities, including protection, psychosocial, social and legal programme.
- Through undertaking protection monitoring, UNHCR and its partners **provide data and protection analysis** for the Protection snapshots issued by the sectors, contributing to collective advocacy.



Health

- UNHCR delivered **60 trauma kits** to the Ministry of Public Health and continue to support hospitals with the prepositioning of **medical equipment** for the response. UNHCR is in the process of procuring **10 ambulances** to support evacuation and transfers of critical patients between hospitals, complementing LRC and Civil defense services that are overwhelmed by the current needs.
- UNHCR expanded its network of hospitals in the South and Bekaa, enhancing access to critical health treatments through **42 contracted hospitals**, ensuring continuous access to life-saving health care for all, and is assessing **the capacity of other hospitals** for possible expansion of the network in Beirut Mount Lebanon.
- UNHCR continues to support emergency medical care for refugees affected by the war. Since 23 September, UNHCR covered treatment of **114 war-wounded refugees** at its contracted hospitals.
- UNHCR supports **primary health care centers** to ensure continuum of services for all, including through support for non-communicable disease, maternal and child health care, and mental health. UNHCR through its implementing Partners completed **preemptive oral cholera vaccination** campaign in the priority high risk areas targeting all population as part of the national health contingency plan.



Shelter and WASH

- UNHCR and partners continue to provide upgrading works in collective shelters, including partitioning, weatherproofing and rehabilitation of water and sanitation utilities. UNHCR is **targeting the repair of at least 420 collective shelters** designated by the government across the country and hosting over **16,000 families**.
- Since the escalation of the hostilities, UNHCR shelter partners **assessed 262 sites**, with all identified as needing repairs and started **upgrading works of 37 shelters** such as weatherproofing, partitioning, and rehabilitation of WASH in Beirut / Mount Lebanon, Bekaa, South, North, and Akkar.
- Since October 2023 overall, **9,578 affected people received shelter support**, including rehabilitation works, enhanced access to water, and improved privacy through gender separation.



Basic assistance

- Since 23 September 2024, **132,137 core relief items** (CRIs) including mattresses, blankets, kitchen sets and solar lamps were distributed to **73,154 people**. Overall, since October 2023, over **380,900 CRIs** were distributed to **130,113 displaced** people.
- In response to the escalation of the hostilities, UNHCR is expending its existing **multi-purpose cash assistance** (MPCA) to affected vulnerable refugee families, in addition to the provision for both refugees and Lebanese of **Emergency Protection Cash Assistance** (EPCA) to address specific protection needs as well as **Cash for Shelter** support to address their primary shelter needs such as maintenance costs and payment of utility bills.
- As a result, and since 23 September, **over 263,750 Lebanese and refugees affected** are being assisted with some type of cash assistance as part of the emergency response, and **344,911 individuals** overall since October 2023.



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Voices from the field



“

My granddaughters. They witnessed everything and we tried to calm them down, but we couldn't. They are living this experience with us. (...) We didn't know where the airstrike was to avoid it.

”

Shaza poses in her temporary home in Beirut after being forced to flee her home in Bourj Barajneb in southern Lebanon as a result of Israeli shelling. The 59-year-old Syrian woman fled with 30 members of her family on foot to Beirut a few days ago.

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CONTACT Marie-Anne Amadiou | Senior External Relations Officer | amadiou@unhcr.org | Beirut, Lebanon
Fabien Faivre | External Relations Officer | faivre@unhcr.org | Beirut, Lebanon