



LEBANON EMERGENCY FLASH UPDATE 12 November 2024

UNHCR sends emergency relief items, as part of a land shipment to Lebanon from its global stockpile in Dubai. © UNHCR/Ola Anan



1.2M
affected
people in Lebanon
(source: GoL)

878,497
Internally displaced
people in Lebanon
(source: IOM/DTM)

9,585
new displacements
over the past week
(source: IOM/DTM)

190,495
registered IDPs in
1,027 collective
shelters
(source: IOM/DTM)

Situation overview

- Israeli air strikes continue across Lebanon, including in the South, Saida, Nabatieh, Bekaa and Mount Lebanon, deepening the already severe humanitarian crisis.
- Lebanese authorities refer to 1.2 million people affected, while the joint IOM and UNHCR tracking shows that as of 11 November, 878,497 Lebanese and Syrian people have been internally displaced in Lebanon (Source: IOM/DTM round 61).
- Since October 2023, UNHCR identified over 92,000 refugees who are secondarily displaced, including over 76,000 since 23 September only, 99 per cent being Syrian refugees.
- UNHCR estimates that at least 340,000 Syrian refugees were residing in the cadasters most affected by the hostilities¹.
- To date, the latest hostilities have resulted in some 3,243 deaths and 14,134 injured, according to the Lebanese Ministry of Health.
- Over 528,000 people² are estimated to have crossed from Lebanon to Syria since the escalation of hostilities, with around 62 per cent Syrians and 38 per cent Lebanese nationals.
- The most urgent needs are access to safe shelters, core relief items, healthcare, food, cash assistance, and protection services.

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 **Protection activities, 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.**

¹ Refugees who resided in areas targeted by 8 or more airstrikes.

² The numbers of new arrivals in this document are based on "SARC Emergency Response for Lebanese Refugees and Syrian Returnees" and daily updates from UNHCR Border Posts. Figures are undergoing verification and are subject to change.



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

UNHCR's protection emergency strategy aims to repurpose and scale up existing systems for all populations, focusing on rapid assessments, protection monitoring, community-based structures, maintaining communication channels, and case management for high-risk individuals.

- Since 23 September, nearly **over 54,000 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 **666,214** visits, including **34,205** visits this week.
- UNHCR continues to process **claims** for information/referral from refugees and Lebanese displaced through its **complaint and feedback mechanisms**, including **8,570** average daily calls to the National Call Centre and **280 average** daily messages to the Online Contact Form in the past week. Trends are slowly settling back to more regular numbers from a spike around the second week of the emergency.
- In areas not directly affected by strikes, UNHCR continues to support **community development centres (CDCs) for safe 'one-stop-shop'** support services and activities, including protection, psychosocial, social, and legal programmes. As of 8 November 2024, **15 CDCs** were physically open. Over the past week, CDC partners reached **5,072** (55% women and girls) through in-person, online or mobile activities of whom **4,231 were IDPs** (93% Lebanese, 56% women and girls). When CDCs are not able to operate, **UNHCR and partners are mobilized within and outside collective shelters**, delivering protection services - sharing information, offering counselling, responding to inquiries and complaints, mobilizing community for self-driven initiatives, and referring persons at heightened risk for services. This week, UNHCR's partners accessed **64 collective shelters**, bringing their reach to a total of **237 shelters**.
- Since the escalation of hostilities, **6,543 displaced persons at heightened risk** were referred for specialized support by Outreach Volunteers, with **872 referrals** in the past week. Of those, 82% were displaced. Families in need of urgent assistance lacking both basic needs and adequate shelter were the most reported referrals, with the majority in Beirut Mount Lebanon.
- 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 health emergency strategy focuses on continuity of care and bolstering existing referral programmes, responding to war-wounded refugees, supporting primary health care centers affected by conflict, outbreak preparedness and response, and provide institutional health support.

- To facilitate refugees' access to life-saving services that include emergency care for refugees injured in war, UNHCR has expanded its hospital network in the South, Bekaa and Beirut Mount Lebanon regions **totaling 44 hospitals**. However, the ongoing conflict is forcing hospitals in high-risk areas to close or provide limited services. Within the UNHCR network, 11 hospitals in the Bekaa are fully operational and 2 only partially operational, while in the South, out of 15 hospitals, 3 are closed, 4 are partially operational, and 8 are operational but limiting to mainly emergency care for war injuries and access to those facilities remain unsafe due to the ongoing conflict.
- UNHCR is procuring **ambulances** to assist with the evacuation and transfer of critical patients, working alongside the Lebanese Red Cross and Civil Defense services, which are currently overwhelmed by the existing demands. The process is ongoing to prioritize the delivery of some ambulances to the Ministry of Public Health to address the most urgent needs.
- The UNHCR is actively providing emergency medical care for refugees impacted by the war. Since 23 September, UNHCR has supported treatment for **177 war-wounded refugees** at its contracted hospitals, with a total of **213** since October 2023.
- At the sub-national level, UNHCR supports coordination efforts for the emergency response. Additionally, UNHCR continues to support primary health care centres to ensure continuum of services for all, including through support for non-communicable disease, maternal and child health care, and mental health. Coordination is ongoing to explore possibilities to support with **Primary Health Satellite Units (PSU)** in the areas of displaced refugees and engage additional staff for **mental health consultations**.



Shelter and WASH

UNHCR shelter emergency strategy envisions to combine rapid response and repairs in collective sites and in other shelters and settlements to all population groups.

- UNHCR and partners continue to provide upgrading works in collective sites, including partitioning, weatherproofing and repair of water and sanitation utilities. UNHCR is **targeting the repair of at least 450 collective sites** designated by the government across the country and hosting over **16,000 families, mainly Lebanese**. Since the escalation of the hostilities, UNHCR shelter partners **assessed 428 sites across the country**, all identified as needing repairs. Of those, repairs are ongoing/completed in **203 sites**.
- Since October 2023 overall, **65,353 affected people received shelter support**, including Cash-for-Shelter, rehabilitation works, enhanced access to water, and improved privacy through gender separation.



Basic Assistance

UNHCR basic assistance emergency strategy focuses on cash assistance for vulnerable displaced families affected by the conflict, complemented with Core Relief Items distribution when needed.

- Since 23 September 2024, **282,611 core relief items** (CRIs) including mattresses, blankets, kitchen sets and solar lamps were distributed to **172,484 people, 90% of them being Lebanese**. Overall, since October 2023, over **428,326 CRIs** were distributed to **229,443** 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 **385,396** Lebanese and refugees affected are being assisted with some type of cash assistance as part of the emergency response, and **465,408** individuals overall since October 2023.

In their own words



My wish is that war ends and I return to my school and that nothing happens anymore in Lebanon.



Ten year-old Aya shares the terror of fleeing her home under fire and her call for peace on [Instagram](#).

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