

Lebanon Situation Report

November 15, 2024

Background

Anera's last <u>Situation Report (October 2024)</u> summarizes information about the current period of the war.

Overview

Intensified Israeli airstrikes have significantly impacted South Lebanon, Nabatieh, Bekaa, Baalbeck-Hermel, and Mount Lebanon governorates. An estimated 1.2 million people are impacted by the hostilities. National authorities have opened over 1,000 shelters for over 185,000 people, half of whom are women and children. With nearly 60% of public schools being used as shelters, the start of the new school year has been repeatedly delayed. The escalation since September 16, 2024 has caused a surge in mass displacement across Lebanon.

The United Nations Development Programme (UNDP) reported that the conflict is expected to continue through the end of 2024, resulting in a 20% decline in trade activities due to the closure of the Lebanese-Syrian border, a critical trade route. The transport and communications sectors are projected to shrink by 10%, primarily due to reduced airport traffic. The broader services sector, including hospitality, recreation, and tourism, is anticipated to contract by 4%. The agriculture and livestock sector may experience a 20% decline, while smaller reductions are expected in energy and water (2%), industries (2%), construction (4%), transport and communications (1%), merchant services (4%), trade (4%), and public administration (1%).

Recent reports indicate that at least 220 industrial and commercial establishments have been partially or fully destroyed, with damages estimated at approximately US\$15 million. Additionally, more than 200 million cubic meters of land, primarily agricultural, has been damaged by Israeli shelling, leading to an estimated loss of \$350 million. Parts of the south have been devastated, with approximately 11,000 housing units affected. According to the Council for South Lebanon, current estimates suggest

¹ Lebanon: Flash Update #43 - Escalation of hostilities in Lebanon, as of 11 November 2024 I OCHA

² <u>UNICEF: Risks Increasing for Children in Lebanon as Bombardment Continues, Essential Services</u> <u>Falter, October 2024 I UNICEF</u>

³ Economic and Social Consequences of the Escalating Hostilities in Lebanon - October 2024 - Rapid Appraisal, October 2024 I UNDP

⁴ October Crisis Update, November 2024 | Mercy Corps

that these figures could be doubled, with losses expected to reach approximately \$500 million.⁵

Violence in Lebanon

Since October 2023, Israeli attacks have killed 3,386 people, including 658 women and injured 14,417, including 11,223 women. Similarly, the hostilities killed 220 children and injured 1,297 others. According to the United Nations Office for the Coordination of Humanitarian Affairs (OCHA), in early November, the conduct of hostilities has shifted significantly, with previously unaffected areas now becoming targets of hostilities, such as land crossings between Lebanon and Syria in Hermel, Bekaa, and Akkar. On November 2, an airstrike hit Akroum village in Akkar, marking the first attack in the governorate. On November 1, several southern suburbs of Beirut were struck by Israeli airstrikes at night, following sudden displacement orders. Additional airstrikes were reported in Nabatieh, Baalbek, and the Aley district in Mount Lebanon, many of which occurred without prior displacement orders. The total number of attacks since the onset of the conflict has reached 12,736.8

Throughout October, the Israeli military launched approximately 3,600 rounds of artillery fire and airstrikes primarily targeting southern Lebanon, areas northeast of Zahle extending to the Syrian border, and the southern suburbs of Beirut. Since September 30, Israeli ground troops have been operating within a three-kilometer-deep strip along the border, with their farthest movement reaching the outskirts of Khiam. The military's actions have included the demolition of entire neighborhoods, likely aimed at creating a buffer zone. On November 5, Lebanon's National News Agency reported that **Israeli forces have demolished or partially destroyed 37 towns and villages near the border**, with at least 40,000 housing units lost. In total, about 25 municipalities near the border have seen one-quarter of their buildings destroyed, most of this damage occurring since the start of the ground invasion.⁹

Shelter & Displacement

A total of 1,165 accredited shelters have been established to host internally displaced persons (IDPs), with 977 of these shelters now operating at full capacity. ¹⁰ As of November 6, 2024, UNRWA shelters were hosting 3,530 registered IDPs. ¹¹ As of

⁵ \$10 billion economic toll: Lebanon faces massive losses one year after escalation. October 2024 I LBC

⁶ 3386 martyrs and 14417 wounded since the beginning of the aggression, and yesterday's toll was 21 martyrs and 73 wounded

Lebanon: Flash Update #41 - Escalation of hostilities in Lebanon, as of 4 November 2024 I OCHA

⁸ Daily Situation Report #43, November 2024 I DRM

⁹ Lebanon at War Crisis Update, October 2024 | Mercy Corps

¹⁰ Daily Situation Report #43, November 2024 I DRM

¹¹ UNRWA Situation Report #12 on the Lebanon Emergency Response, November 2024 I UNRWA

November 7, the hostilities displaced 45,189 families, out of which 190,740 registered IDPs are living in 1,145 shelters (including 1,059 shelters linked to 235 primary healthcare centers [PHCCs]), while 561,794 people crossed from Lebanon to Syria. ¹² Between September 23 and October 16, nearly 11,700 Lebanese arrived in Iraq. ¹³ UNDP estimates that internal and external displacement is expected to affect over 20% of Lebanon's resident population, with 1.2 to 1.5 million people displaced by mid-October 2024.

Between September 23 and November 4, the Israeli military issued evacuation orders for over 160 villages and more than 130 buildings in regions of Lebanon affected by the conflict. These orders have forced residents to evacuate their homes immediately. On October 31, the Israeli army issued its first displacement order for Rashidieh Palestinian camp and ten villages in southern Lebanon, pressuring residents to find limited safe refuge options. This followed strikes on two other Palestinian refugee camps over the past month, which were carried out without prior warnings or displacement orders. 15

As of November 13, Lebanon recorded 881,326 IDPs. Displacement spans all 26 districts and eight governorates, with 61% concentrated in Chouf, Beirut, Aley, Saida, and Akkar. Half of the IDPs originate from Sour (21%), El Nabatieh (16%), and Bent Jbeil (13%), with 78% displaced outside their governorates of origin. Most IDPs live in host settings (48%), while others are in collective shelters (21%), rental housing (29%), or informal sites. Overcrowding affects 64% of host settings, where 291,751 individuals co-live with families and 132,144 live separately.¹⁶

Economic Activity, Livelihoods and Food Security

The ongoing conflict has caused some shops in the south to remain closed, resulting in damage to 220 industrial and commercial establishments, with losses estimated at around \$15 million. Continuous shelling has caused around 220 million cubic meters of land to burn, with 12 million cubic meters left unplanted. **Losses in the agricultural sector are estimated at \$350 million.** Following the assassination of a prominent Hezbollah leader in an airstrike on Beirut's southern suburbs, hotel activity dropped by 60%, and 90% of hotels partially closed their rooms. As a result, tourism in Lebanon fell by 83% in August compared to the previous year, and restaurant sales dropped by 50%. **The tourism sector experienced losses amounting to approximately \$3 billion.** Since the escalations started in October 2023, estimates show that Lebanon's economy suffered direct losses of \$4 billion and indirect losses of \$1 billion before

¹² LEBANON Response Emergency Health #7 update Situation, November 2024 I WHO

¹³ Lebanon Sitrep October 2024 I UNFPA

Lebanon: Flash Update #41 - Escalation of hostilities in Lebanon, as of 4 November 2024 I OCHA

¹⁵ <u>Lebanon: Flash Update #40 - Escalation of hostilities in Lebanon, as of 31 October 2024 I OCHA</u>

¹⁶ Mobility Snapshot - Round 62 - 14-11-2024

September 17. When factoring in damages through October 7, total losses are projected to reach \$10 billion.¹⁷

According to UNDP's Rapid Appraisal, in the long-term, Lebanon's economy is projected to contract significantly in the coming years, with GDP declining by 2.3% in 2025 and 2.4% in 2026. Unemployment is expected to rise by 1.3 and 1.4 percentage points, respectively, while private consumption could fall by 3.6% in 2025 and 2.8% in 2026. Investment is likely to drop by 6.3% each year, with exports and imports also expected to decrease due to continued trade disruptions. Public revenue may decline by over 3%, while financing needs will rise sharply, reaching over 21% of GDP in 2025 and 27% in 2026, indicating increasing reliance on domestic debt.¹⁸

Lebanon's food insecurity, already severe, is expected to worsen as conflict and economic pressures mount, placing it among hotspots of very high concern according to the FAO-WFP Hunger Hotspots report of October 31. From April to September 2024, 1.3 million people (23% of the population) experienced high levels of acute food insecurity (IPC Phase 3 or higher), with 85,000 in emergency conditions (IPC Phase 4), notably in Akkar, Baalbek, Tripoli, Saida, Zahle, and el Minieh-Dennie.¹⁹

Lebanon's food insecurity is expected to worsen if hostilities continue in the Bekaa and the South, which account for more than 60% of the country's agricultural production. WFP market assessments indicate food supply disruptions in Beirut, while in conflict-affected areas like Nabatieh and Baalbek-El Hermel, 80% and 42% of stores, respectively, are closed.²⁰ According to the United Nations Children's Fund (UNICEF), the ongoing conflict in Lebanon has left 300,000 people in critical need of essential nutrition and early childhood development services.²¹

Health & Education

Israeli forces have killed 192 health personnel and injured 308 others. Hostilities have damaged 244 ambulances and impacted 88 health facilities. They have also damaged 40 hospitals and 65 primary healthcare centers, affecting 217 locations in total, the northernmost areas bearing the heaviest toll.²² By September 2024, nearly 30 PHCCs were closed due to security risks. According to the World Health Organization (WHO), over 1.5 million refugees and IDPs urgently need mental health and psychosocial

¹⁷ \$10 billion economic toll: Lebanon faces massive losses one year after escalation. October 2024 I LBC

¹⁸ Rapid Appraisal Lebanon, October 2024 I UNDP

¹⁹ Lebanon: Flash Update #40 - Escalation of hostilities in Lebanon, as of 31 October 2024 I OCHA

²⁰ Lebanon: Flash Update #43 - Escalation of hostilities in Lebanon, as of 11 November 2024 I OCHA

²¹ Lebanon: Flash Update #43 - Escalation of hostilities in Lebanon, as of 11 November 2024 | OCHA

²² 3287 martyrs and 14222 wounded since the beginning of the aggression, and yesterday's toll was 44 martyrs and 88 wounded. November 2024 I MoPH

support.²³ As of November 6, 15 out of 27 UNRWA health centers are operational, while the remaining 12 are closed due to security concerns.²⁴ Due to the security situation, six out of 16 United Nations Population Fund (UNFPA)-supported primary healthcare centers, one out of nine mobile units, and five out of 17 women and girls' safe spaces are no longer operational.²⁵ While nearly a quarter of southern Lebanon's infrastructure has been destroyed, the health system, which was already strained before the crisis, has been pushed to its limits, with around 100 PHCCs and dispensaries closed.²⁶

According to UNFPA, over 336,000 women of reproductive age are struggling to access essential sexual and reproductive health services, including maternal care, menstrual supplies, and contraception. An estimated 13,900 women are currently pregnant, with 1,550 expected to give birth in December. Protection risks, including sexual exploitation and abuse, have intensified in overcrowded shelters, where access to support services remains limited.²⁷ **The hostilities in Lebanon have displaced 400,000 children, who are increasingly at risk of health and protection issues.** These include waterborne diseases such as cholera, hepatitis, and diarrhea, as the ongoing bombardment disrupts and damages essential services that families depend on.²⁸

On October 16, Lebanon's Ministry of Public Health reported the first confirmed cholera case, in Akkar Governorate, since the October 2022–June 2023 outbreak was declared over. Health authorities are actively collecting samples from the patient's contacts and conducting case investigations. WHO has activated a preparedness and response plan to enhance surveillance, contact tracing, and containment efforts, aiming to manage the outbreak amid the region's strained healthcare system.²⁹

Despite the education sector in Lebanon facing significant disruptions, with **at least 60% of public schools being repurposed as shelters** and nearly 400 schools closed due to insecurity or damage, efforts to bring children back to learning are underway. On October 31, the Ministry of Education and Higher Education announced a phased resumption of classes, initially for three days a week. This plan will enroll 175,000 students, including 38,000 displaced children, with support from UNICEF. Classes will be held in 350 public schools not serving as shelters, and 169 private schools will temporarily host public school students.³⁰

²³ WHO flash appeal Lebanon humanitarian response, October 2024 I Lebanon

²⁴ UNRWA Situation Report #12 on the Lebanon Emergency Response, November 2024 I UNRWA

²⁵ Lebanon Sitrep October 2024 I UNFPA

²⁶ Mass displacement of pregnant women requires mobilization of maternal health services in Lebanon, Syria, October 2024 I UNFPA

²⁷ Lebanon: Flash Update #43 - Escalation of hostilities in Lebanon, as of 11 November 2024 I OCHA

²⁸ UNICEF: Risks Increasing for Children in Lebanon as Bombardment Continues, Essential Services Falter, October 2024 I UNICEF

²⁹ Lebanon: Flash Update #36 - Escalation of hostilities in Lebanon, as of 17 October 2024 I OCHA

³⁰ Lebanon: Flash Update #41 - Escalation of hostilities in Lebanon, as of 4 November 2024 I OCHA

The Ministry of Education and Higher Education has introduced a two-shift system in public schools and mandated remote learning options to mitigate significant disruptions to the school year, which officially began on November 4. Since October 2023, over 500,000 primary and secondary school students and 90,000 university students have been displaced. More than 45,000 teachers are unable to work, and many schools and universities are being used as shelters.³¹ In a statement released on November 4, the Contract Teachers' Association raised concerns that the academic year has been "accessible only to those able to afford it," with fewer than 30% of schools operating, either partially or fully. Many teachers are facing financial challenges: 45,000 are not working, and many are refusing to return until their demands for fair compensation are met, including a \$600 productivity allowance, higher hourly wages, and the full implementation of contract terms.³²

On November 7, the United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization and the Ministry of Education and Higher Education reported that 350 schools are offering in-person classes, 397 are providing remote learning, and 45 schools are functioning as shelters with separate in-person learning spaces. Around 220,000 students are enrolled, including 44,350 displaced children.³³

Water and Sanitation

Since October 8, 2023, attacks have damaged at least 34 water facilities, disrupting water supply to over 400,000 people, primarily in southern Lebanon.³⁴ Teams assessing the damage, delivering fuel, and making repairs have been unable to reach several affected areas, meaning the full extent of the damage is likely greater.³⁵ Due to recent strikes, the solar-powered water system at the Rmaich pumping station in southern Lebanon, has been damaged. This disruption has impacted water access for about 1,325 households, including 175 displaced families who are currently sheltering in Rmaich.³⁶

Losses suffered by the public water and energy sectors since October 2023 are estimated at \$480 million. The energy sector alone has incurred over \$320 million in losses, mainly due to increased demand from displaced persons, infrastructure damage, and revenue losses. The water sector has faced approximately \$160 million in losses.³⁷

Humanitarian Needs

³¹ October Crisis Update, November 2024 I Mercy Corps

³² October Crisis Update, November 2024 I Mercy Corps

Lebanon: Flash Update #43 - Escalation of hostilities in Lebanon, as of 11 November 2024 I OCHA

³⁴ Lebanon: Flash Update #41 - Escalation of hostilities in Lebanon, as of 4 November 2024 I OCHA

³⁵ UNICEF: Risks Increasing for Children in Lebanon as Bombardment Continues, Essential Services Falter, October 2024 I UNICEF

³⁶ Lebanon: Flash Update #42 - Escalation of hostilities in Lebanon, as of 7 November 2024 I OCHA

³⁷ October Crisis Update, November 2024 I Mercy Corps

In October, the international community pledged \$1 billion in aid for Lebanon, with \$800 million designated for humanitarian assistance and \$200 million to support Lebanon's security forces. France has committed to raising €100 million and deploying 100 tonnes of humanitarian supplies.³⁸

As of November 11, OCHA reported that of the \$426 million requested in the Flash Appeal, only 24% has been received.³⁹ WHO's six-month Flash Appeal (October 2024 – March 2025) requests US\$ 50 million to support Lebanon's health response. Of this, \$25 million is part of the United Nations Multisectoral Flash Appeal, which aims to raise \$40 million for the health response from October to December 2024.⁴⁰ UNICEF estimates that 1 million people, including 350,000 children, are in need of humanitarian assistance in Lebanon. The funding requirement for this response is \$105 million.⁴¹

The Inter-Agency Flash Appeal for Lebanon, launched on October 1, 2024, seeks \$426 million to address the urgent needs of 1 million people in Lebanon. Within this framework, UNFPA's financial requirements until the end of 2024 amount to \$8.6 million, with \$5.5 million allocated for sexual and reproductive health programs and \$3.1 million for gender-based violence interventions. So far, UNFPA has received \$2 million — \$1 million from the internal Emergency Fund and the Humanitarian Thematic Fund, and \$1 million from the Central Emergency Response Fund. The Flash Appeal complements the UNFPA Appeal of \$19 million for the Lebanon Response Plan. 42

Anera's Response

As of November 13, 2024, Anera has intensified its emergency response efforts to address the escalating humanitarian crisis in Lebanon. Since September 17, Anera has helped 357,556 people across affected areas. This response includes distributing essential supplies and services to meet the urgent needs of displaced and vulnerable communities.

Anera has provided 69,338 meals to families struggling with food insecurity and delivered over 3 million gallons of water to mitigate severe water shortages. To address health needs, Anera distributed 89,899 doses of medication and 116,078 units of medical supplies, supporting those affected by the collapse of health infrastructure.

³⁸ International Conference in Support of Lebanon's People and Sovereignty (Paris, 24 October 2024) I Ministry for Europe and Foreign Affairs

³⁹ Lebanon: Flash Update #43 - Escalation of hostilities in Lebanon, as of 11 November 2024 I OCHA

WHO flash appeal Lebanon humanitarian response. October 2024 I Lebanon

⁴¹ UNICEF Lebanon appeal, October 2024

⁴² Lebanon Sitrep October 2024 I UNFPA

In addition to food and medical aid, Anera has distributed 25,769 bedding items and 31,341 hygiene kits to improve living conditions in overcrowded shelters. Recognizing the specific needs of women, Anera also supplied 2,214 female hygiene kits. To help families through the winter, Anera provided 1,448 articles of clothing to the displaced families.