

This report is produced by OCHA Lebanon Office in collaboration with Inter-Sector Coordination Group under 2026 Lebanon Response Plan (LRP) Framework.

KEY FIGURES



>1,049 K (MoSA)

self-registered Internally Displaced People (IDP)



134 K (DRM)

displaced in collective shelters



636 (DRM)

shelters



1,001 (MoPH)

people killed



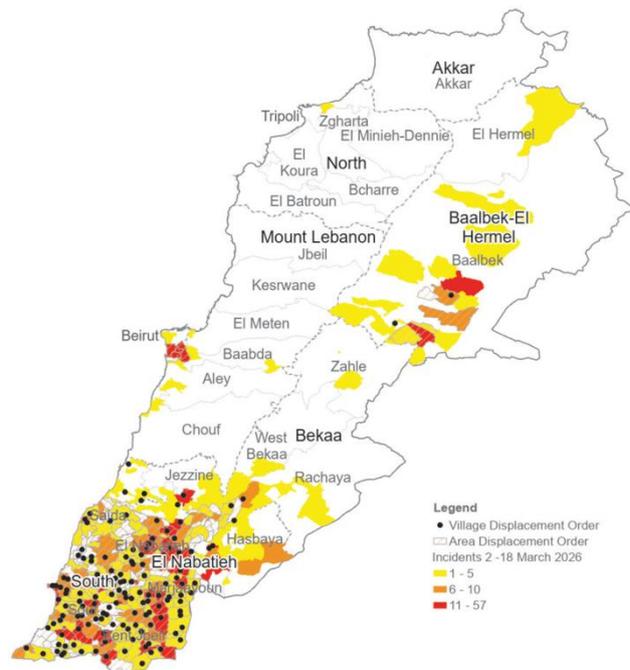
2,584 (MoPH)

people injured

HIGHLIGHTS

- Over one thousand people have been killed and 2,584 injured. A humanitarian worker with children, a journalist and his spouse are killed, another journalist and a cameraman injured. 31 healthcare workers killed since 2 March.
- UNICEF’s Deputy Executive Director, Ted Chaiban: “Recent escalation has killed or wounded the equivalent of “one classroom of children every day.”
- Ongoing displacement orders are driving repeated population movements, with over 1.2 million people displaced, including 134,439 IDPs in 636 collective shelters—mainly in Beirut and Mount Lebanon—amid growing shelter shortages and protection risks.

CONFLICT INTENSITY MAP as of 18 March



The boundaries and names shown and the designations used on this map do not imply official endorsement or acceptance by the United Nations.
 Creation date: 20 March 2026 Source: Incidents: public media
 Feedback: ocha@lebanon@un.org www.unocha.org www.reliefweb.int

SITUATION OVERVIEW

Since the beginning of March 2026, the escalation of hostilities across Lebanon has driven a rapid and severe deterioration in the humanitarian situation. Israeli airstrikes, shelling, and expanded ground operations continue to intensify in scale, frequency, and geographic scope, affecting areas that had previously remained less exposed. Civilians and critical civilian infrastructure are consistently bearing the brunt of the violence, with widespread destruction of residential buildings, healthcare facilities, roads, water networks, and public services. Over **1,000 people have been killed** and **2,584 injured**, with children disproportionately affected. During his visit to Lebanon, UNICEF’s Deputy Executive Director, Ted Chaiban highlighted that the **recent escalation has killed or wounded the equivalent of “one classroom of children every day,”** underscoring the acute protection risks faced by the most vulnerable.

Attacks on healthcare and humanitarian personnel continue to rise. **At least 31 healthcare workers** have been killed to date, and dozens more injured, alongside repeated strikes on hospitals, PHCCs, ambulances, and medical transport. Five hospitals and 49 PHCCs are now out of operation, severely limiting access to lifesaving care as masscasualty incidents occur across multiple governorates. Humanitarian personnel have also been affected; a **recent strike in Baalbek killed a local NGO humanitarian worker and two children**. These attacks raise grave concerns over the respect of international humanitarian law, which explicitly protects medical personnel, facilities, and humanitarian personnel.

Hostilities are also escalating on the ground. Increased military activity south of the Litani River, with exchanges of fire along the Blue Line, signal rising protection threats for communities in high-risk areas. On 18 March, a building in Bashoura was targeted for the second time following a displacement order issued in the early hours, forcing residents to evacuate with minimal time and no clear shelter alternatives. Additional strikes in Zkak el Blat and Basta resulted in further casualties, including **the killing of a journalist and his spouse**. This marks the first reported killing of a journalists in Lebanon since 2 March escalation, raising serious concerns regarding the protection of civilians and media personnel. An additional airstrike, **on 18 March, on Qasmieh bridge in the South injured a journalist and cameraman**.

Displacement dynamics remain highly fluid and complex. Repeated and expanded displacement orders – now covering significant portions of southern Lebanon, parts of Beirut, border villages, and the Bekaa – are triggering multiple, secondary, and tertiary displacement. Displacement orders in areas such as Beirut's southern suburbs, localized orders for buildings or neighborhoods, alongside broader displacement orders affecting villages such as Kherbet Selem, Beit Yahoun, and Deir Qanoun, continue to force people to flee. On 17 March **large-scale displacement orders in Tyre district including Palestinian camps** triggered significant population movements both within and beyond the district, including to already strained host communities.

As of 19 March, **134,439 people** are sheltering in **636 collective shelters**, with women and girls representing more than half of the displaced. **Overall displacement exceeds 1.2 million people** when including those outside formal sites. Collective shelters are overstretched, with many reporting overcrowding, limited electricity, lack of heating, insufficient WASH facilities, and inadequate privacy – conditions that heighten protection risks, particularly for women, girls, older people, persons with disabilities, and those requiring specialized support.

Schools continue to be heavily affected. A total of **472 schools** – public, private, and TVET – are being used as collective shelters, restricting access to education for thousands of students. Some children have returned to the same schools where they previously sheltered during the 2024 escalation, compounding the longterm disruption caused by Lebanon's economic collapse, the Beirut Port explosion, and the COVID19 pandemic.

Damage to critical infrastructure continues to impede humanitarian access. Airstrikes have **destroyed or damaged roads, crossings, and bridges, including Qasmieh bridge; water pipelines between Marjaayoun, Blat, Dibbin, and surrounding areas; and at least five fuel stations in the South**. These disruptions further constrain the delivery of essential humanitarian assistance.

Humanitarian actors reiterate the respect to the International Humanitarian Law. Civilians, including journalists, must be protected at all times. Medical personnel, health facilities, ambulances, patients and civilians are explicitly protected under international law and must not be targeted. The protection of civilians and unimpeded humanitarian access remain imperative to prevent further loss of life and alleviate human suffering.

HUMANITARIAN RESPONSE

Humanitarian partners continue to deliver humanitarian assistance to the displaced people particularly in the collective shelters, while awaiting the finalization of the response approach outside of the shelters by the Ministry of Social Affairs (MoSA). The humanitarian actors continue to scale up the response in close coordination with

DRMs at subnational level and logistic sectors to meet the needs of affected people remaining in hard-to-reach areas.

Funding and Resource Mobilization

As of 19 March, several Member States have announced significant pledges in response to the renewed escalation in Lebanon. **Germany** has announced \$49.9 million in humanitarian aid, and **Italy** pledged US\$11.5 million, with part allocated to the Flash Appeal, part to the Red Cross and Red Crescent Movement, and the remainder to NGOs. **Switzerland** announced US\$7.5 million, while also underscoring the importance of addressing stabilization and early recovery needs alongside the humanitarian response. In addition, **Canada** announced around CAD 10 million (approximately US\$7.2 million) for food assistance, and US\$2.5 million as an initial contribution from **Norway**. **Belgium** highlighted the continuation of its existing programmes. The **European Union** noted that existing funding will be redirected to support priority interventions, including mobile medical units, mobile learning and cash assistance. Humanitarian airbridges – such as the one carried out with UNICEF this week – are expected to continue. While **China and Australia** indicated that their support to Lebanon will be finalized soon.

Despite these generous pledges, many contributions have yet to be recorded in the Financial Tracking Service (FTS) against the Flash Appeal for Lebanon. Donors are strongly encouraged to report their contributions to ensure accurate reflection in the [FTS](#). As of 19 March, FTS shows just 6 percent of the \$308.3 million Flash Appeal for Lebanon as funded, with nearly \$19 million recorded in the system.

In addition, a **humanitarian flight organized by the Italian Cooperation, in partnership with UNHCR**, landed in Lebanon 19 March carrying approximately **30 tonnes of 11,000 essential relief items, including kitchen sets, blankets, hygiene kits and jerry cans, intended for more than 1,500 families**. The distribution of the newly arrived supplies - carried out in close coordination with MoSA and DRM, in order to ensure full alignment with national response mechanism - will be distributed to displaced families across Lebanon, including those sheltering in government-designated collective shelters and to host communities, where humanitarian needs continue to grow.



Access and Civil-Military Coordination

Between 2 and 18 March, a total of **thirteen humanitarian movements** were formally notified through the OCHA-managed **Humanitarian Notification System (HNS)** and successfully implemented by partners. Following the activation of the HNS for areas **North of the Litani River (NLR)**, three notified movements facilitated the retrieval of core relief items from Haret Hreik (Beirut's southern suburbs) and the delivery of food assistance to Deir Al Ahar, Jabaa, and Jarjoua in southern Lebanon.

An additional **ten movements south of the Litani River (SLR)** enabled the delivery of food parcels and essential relief supplies—including hygiene kits, ready-to-eat meals (RTEs), bottled water, blankets, and mattresses—to collective shelters, as well as the safe evacuation of vulnerable civilians from several border villages.

On **18 March**, a humanitarian convoy to Rmeich delivered substantial assistance to populations remaining in hard-to-reach areas, including **1,040 food parcels, 500 bread packs, 500 RTEs, 200 hygiene kits, 200 blankets, 200 mattresses, 200 sleeping mats, 7,284 bottles of water, 20 boxes of baby kits, and 18 bales of dignity kits**.

In parallel, relief items were pre-positioned at the **Tyre Disaster Risk Reduction (DRR) centre**, including **6,000 two-litre water bottles, 500 baby kits, and 1,000 emergency family hygiene kits**, to support rapid response capacity.

Despite these efforts, the operational environment remains increasingly constrained, particularly **South of the Litani River**, due to expanding displacement orders—including in Tyre city and Palestinian camps—and continued attacks affecting crossings over the Litani River. These conditions are significantly hindering humanitarian access and limiting the ability of partners to reach populations remaining in border areas.

Education

Approximately **367,300 out of over 1.2 million self-registered displaced persons are children**. According to the DRM report, around **46,460 children are currently accommodated in 658 collective shelters**.

Education partners are supporting displaced children through psychosocial and recreational activities in coordination with the Child Protection sector, while also identifying learning options, including remote and alternative modalities, to support the continuity of learning. To date, partners have distributed **688 education kits or supplies to shelters and learning centres** (18 in Beirut, 48 in Mount Lebanon, 322 in the North, 26 in Akkar, and 254 in the South).

To date, **39 education partners have committed to covering 242 shelters**. However, 363 shelters remain without an assigned education partner, indicating a significant coverage gap. As the number of shelters is expected to increase, additional partner engagement will be critical to ensure displaced children can access education, psychosocial, and recreational support. According to the Ministry of Education and Higher Education (MEHE) latest guidance, partners can support by providing education near shelters, but not in shelters.

On 17 March, MEHE launched a national remote learning campaign under **Decision 407** to ensure continuity of education during school disruptions. Distance learning is positioned as a temporary mitigation measure. Campaign materials have been distributed in shelters and are being broadcast on social media and national TV channels in coordination with the Ministry of Information.

Food Security & Agriculture

Partners mobilized rapidly and initiated food distributions in shelters, providing a total of **1,277,708 hot meals**. Partners also distributed **38,314 ready-to-eat (RTE) kits** to support affected families with immediate food needs.

The sector launched a Food [Sector Response dashboard](#). It provides comprehensive information on the response inside collective shelters. This includes the daily assistance delivered by partners, **averaging 125,000 meals per day** and covering all IDPs residing in shelters and RTE kits distributed inside the shelters.

The Ministry of Agriculture (MoA), in coordination with the Food Security Sector, has supported producers in the South who are holding large stocks of fruit. These stocks were redirected to sector partners to use as top-ups in food assistance, helping prevent losses after producers lost access to markets due to the recent escalation. In addition, MoSA will share a protocol for one-off distributions of food parcels to IDPs staying outside shelters.

Health

Response: A total of 189 PHCCs are linked with 622 collective shelters and continue to provide comprehensive primary healthcare services, including sexual and reproductive health, childhood immunization, non-communicable disease management, and mental health and psychosocial support.

Despite the security context, the National Tuberculosis (TB) and AIDS Program continues to ensure uninterrupted services except for Tyr and Nabatieh NTAP which remain closed. TB screening and active

case-finding have expanded to four regions (Beirut, Zahle, Saida, and Halba). No active TB cases have been detected to date.

Gaps and constraints: Health Partners reported continued access restrictions in Nabatieh, preventing the delivery of donations to health facilities in the area.

Nutrition

Response: 9,900 children under five, adolescent girls, and pregnant and breastfeeding women were reached with emergency nutrition rations and micronutrient supplementation sufficient for one month in 393 shelters. **808 children under 5 and pregnant and breastfeeding women** were screened for wasting and referred to specialized services in designated PHCCs. **1,524 caregivers of children under 5 years were reached** with specialized IYCF, nutrition, and ECD counselling and awareness on optimal nutrition practices in an emergency. The nutrition sector is leveraging the health delivery platform to ensure nutrition services are provided within shelters through deployment of 38 nutritionists to PHCC Satellite Units (PSUs) to provide nutrition interventions in 88 shelters, in addition to supporting the community in hard to reach and high-risk areas. The 38 nutritionists received a 2-day training on the prevention and management of wasting, nutrition key messages, and the appropriate provision of preventive supplements to capacitate them and strengthen their knowledge.

The nutrition sector strengthened coordination and quality assurance of the nutrition response by building the capacity of **159 frontline workers** on the appropriate provision of nutrition supplies inside and outside collective shelters in alignment with recently developed nutrition guidance and job aids. This capacity building initiative aims to further expand and standardize the quality of partners' nutrition response to ensure awareness of the available support from the national **IYCF hotline** and provide caregivers with clear **key messages on IYCF practices in emergencies**, UNICEF developed and disseminated an Infant & Young Child Feeding (IYCF) Chatbot link with all **Nutrition Sector partners, RCCE teams**, and the **IYCF Committee**. So far, **174 caregivers** interacted with this chatbot. Since the beginning of the emergency, **71 caregivers** reached out to the IYCF hotline, out of which **42 caregivers** were referred for additional specialized IYCF support.

Gaps and constraints: 4 malnutrition treatment centers have been disrupted, with the majority currently non-operational and only one center partially functioning. This has significantly reduced access to life-saving nutrition services for vulnerable children in affected areas. To address gaps in access to care, UNICEF operationalized wasting treatment within PSUs, supporting case identification, admission, and continuity of care for children with wasting.

Unsolicited donations and procurement of breastmilk substitutes (BMS) and baby food, and preventive nutrition supplies in the current emergency risk are leading to untargeted distributions that may undermine breastfeeding and pose health risks for infants. Limited funding remains a critical constraint to scale up essential interventions, including infant and young child feeding support.

Protection

Needs: With over one million people displaced, ensuring **access to adequate shelter and basic services remains a priority** for humanitarian partners. The sector has strengthened coordination and analysis through the two recent documents compiled by the co-coordinators and the Protection Analysis and Monitoring Task Force (PAM TF). These include the [Protection Response Sitrep](#) - providing a consolidated overview of response reach, identified gaps, and operational constraints and the PAM TF [Protection Sector Monitoring Snapshot](#), which presents sector-wide analytical inputs from NGOs, community-based organizations, and protection monitoring actors.

Collective sites continue to accommodate large numbers of displaced families, and partners are working to address service gaps that may impact the safety and well-being of residents. Efforts are ongoing to expand **complaint and feedback mechanisms**, including PSEA reporting channels, to ensure safe and accountable access to assistance. Work is also underway to increase the availability of **information on services**, helping families better understand how to access support.

Partners are collaborating to address challenges related to **children's access to online learning**, including limited connectivity, devices, and appropriate learning spaces. Overcrowding and limited privacy remain common issues, and partners continue to prioritize GBV risk mitigation, child protection, and psychosocial support activities. **Support for persons with disabilities** is being enhanced through coordination with specialized actors to improve access to assistive devices and tailored services. In several locations, partners are working with local authorities and communities to improve **food diversity**, particularly for children and persons with disabilities.

WASH partners are prioritizing urgent repairs in sites requiring improved access to potable and hot water. As many households have lost sources of income, partners are scaling up basic assistance and protection support to help reduce reliance on negative coping mechanisms. Additional protection needs – including family separation risks and increased psychosocial distress among caregivers and children – continue to be addressed through targeted interventions in collective sites and community settings.

Humanitarian partners continue expanding outreach to **populations outside collective sites**, where needs can vary significantly. In the Bekaa, efforts are ongoing to support both collective shelters and surrounding host communities, which continue to receive displaced families. Limited shelter capacity in some areas has led to repeated population movements, and partners are working to identify alternatives to premature or unsafe returns.

As displacement increases, more households are moving to urban areas and informal tented settlements (ITS), where living conditions vary and needs for CRIs, cash support, and other forms of assistance remain high. **Rising rental costs and eviction risks pose challenges for many households**, and partners are engaging with municipalities and community groups to improve access to shelter options. As support has temporarily concentrated around collective shelters, partners are adjusting programming to strengthen service availability for displaced families in urban areas to preserve equitable access. Across locations, the loss of livelihoods continues to affect families' ability to meet basic needs.

According to recent monitoring, access to shelter and basic services remains particularly limited for some non-Lebanese displaced groups, including Syrians, Palestinians, refugees of other nationalities, and migrant workers. Ongoing efforts aim to expand both formal and community-based shelter options and ensure equitable access to food, water, sanitation, and health services for all affected communities.

Challenges in accessing civil documentation persist for some households, particularly due to procedural delays. Partners are expanding **legal counselling and awareness activities** to help families navigate administrative requirements and access available assistance.

Response: Since the start of the escalation, Protection, Child Protection, and GBV partners have continued to deliver critical support across all governorates. As of 19 March, **22,754 displaced people** have been reached with protection services, including **11,361 individuals** through information and awareness sessions on available services, **5,939** with psychosocial support inside collective sites, and targeted case management for high-risk cases outside shelters. In addition, **4,403 women and girls** received dignity kits, and **380 non-Lebanese households** received Emergency Protection Cash.

After initial challenges in implementing activities inside collective shelters, partners now report expanded access following the approval of several key interventions coordinated with the Ministry of Social Affairs. The geo-split

exercise – designed to ensure full coverage of the **649 mapped shelters** and reduce operational overlap – is progressing, supported by a dedicated tool. To date, Protection, Child Protection, or GBV actors are assigned to **497 sites (77%)**, implemented by 65 partners.

Under the GBV sub-sector, partners distributed **4,403 dignity kits** across Akkar, Beirut, the Bekaa, the South, the North, and Mount Lebanon. An additional **58 households** received one-off Protection Cash assistance. **2,356 individuals** – including women, men, and persons with disabilities – benefited from information sessions covering access to services and key protection and GBV messages. The **GBV Safety Audit**, conducted in **93 sites**, is helping partners strengthen inter-sectoral risk mitigation measures based on identified safety concerns for women and girls.

Child Protection partners report increasing requests from caregivers for educational and recreational activities to support children’s well-being. In response, partners are scaling up **psychosocial and recreational interventions** to help children cope with distress linked to displacement, loud noises, and uncertainty. Safe spaces continue to offer vital support for children and caregivers. Some cases of **child labor**, especially among Syrian children in Akkar, have been observed, and partners are integrating targeted responses to mitigate such risks.

Feedback from communities indicates that recreational activities, awareness sessions, and individual counselling are highly valued. Caregivers have emphasized the importance of safe spaces to share concerns about family members in affected areas and to manage stress related to displacement.

Partners are also enhancing collaboration with the **Emergency Task Force for Persons with Disabilities**, working toward shared tools and standards to promote inclusive services and accessible shelters, including the development of a disability-specific service mapping tool.

Shelter

Shelter partners have **distributed 92,460 mattresses, 111,667 blankets, 51,414 sleeping mats, 32,526 pillows, as well as approximately 10,389 solar lamps and 9,434 jerry cans** across collective sites in all governorates.

In addition, the **Shelter Sector has assigned 441 collective sites** to shelter partners. Of these, 226 sites have been assessed to identify repair needs, partitioning requirements to increase hosting capacity and improve privacy, and any upgrades required to ensure the sites are adequate to host displaced families, with partners proceeding with the necessary works accordingly. A total of 117 technical submissions have been made to secure approvals to initiate repairs from the relevant authorities/ focal points, of which 63 have been approved and works have already commenced in 50 sites.

Water, Sanitation, and Hygiene (WASH)

Response: WASH partners have delivered assistance in **542 collective shelters, reaching 131,532 IDPs reach with WASH services**. To date, **32,359 hygiene kits and 19,965 menstrual hygiene kits have been distributed across 528 shelters, while 590,242 litres of bottled drinking water and 9,011m³ of water through water trucking have been delivered in 398 shelters**. In addition, **487,173 of fuel have been provided to Water Establishments** to sustain public water supply services.

Gaps and constraints: 12,789 IDPs in shelters have not received WASH assistance yet and scaling up the response across all shelters remains challenging due to limited funding.

Social Stability

Tension Monitoring System continues to monitor tensions and social stability dynamics, with regular pulse briefs informing response prioritization and geographic targeting.

GENERAL COORDINATION

On 18 March, Inter-Sector Coordination Group (ISCG) reviewed the emergency response, including updates on the Flash Appeal, assessments and analysis, logistics and convoy coordination, access and humanitarian notifications, tensions monitoring, and field-level updates from Operational Coordination Groups(OCG), ensuring alignment on priorities and operational challenges across the response. Furthermore, Inter-sector discussions are ongoing to strengthen the mainstreaming of disability inclusion across the response, including the development of a pilot approach to inform more inclusive, multi-sectoral programming in line with humanitarian standards.

A high-level meeting between the Minister of Social Affairs, RC/HC, and UN Heads of Agencies took place on 18 March. The meeting reviewed progress and operational priorities, including funding visibility and aid tracking, cash assistance strategy and targeting, support to displaced populations outside shelters, and coordination of in-kind assistance and distribution systems; discussions emphasized the need to strengthen assessment frameworks, align Government and partner tracking systems, and reinforce coordinated planning and accountability across the response.

On 19 March, the Humanitarian Country Team (HCT) discussed key strategic priorities, including the LRP coordination architecture and national governance arrangements, as well as protection of civilians and respect for international humanitarian law, with a focus on emerging trends, advocacy priorities, and strengthening coordination effectiveness across the response.

Coordination is ongoing to support the operationalization of the Government decision to allocate collective shelter sites for non-Lebanese populations, with follow-up on formal communication to Governors to enable implementation.

Coordination with Government and partners continues to advance assessment and targeting approaches, including the rollout of a multi-sectoral assessment for populations outside collective shelters and the development of vulnerability-based methodologies to inform assistance prioritization.

The Logistics Cluster continues to coordinate with OCGs and partners to facilitate humanitarian convoy planning and access to hard-to-reach areas, with emphasis on advance planning requirements and complementarity across actors.