

This report is produced by OCHA Lebanon Office in collaboration with Inter-Sector Coordination Group under 2026 Lebanon Response Plan (LRP) Framework. It covers the period from 2 to 5 March 2026.

KEY FIGURES



96K

displaced in collective shelters



441

shelters



82

people killed



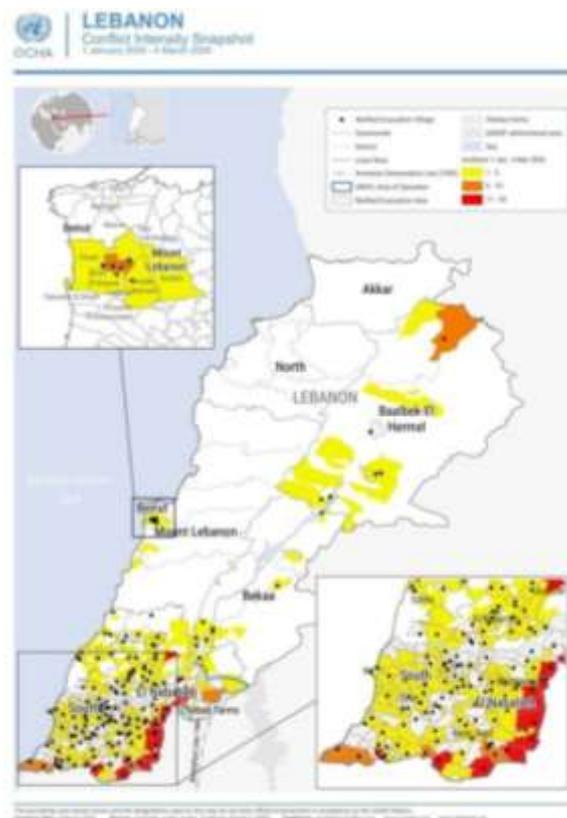
536

people injured

HIGHLIGHTS

- On 2 March, rockets and drones were launched by Hezbollah from southern Lebanon followed by **large-scale Israeli military operations across Lebanon**, resulting in civilian casualties and **significant displacement**
- On 02 March, Government of Lebanon activated the **national operations room** and has been responding to the immediate needs of IDPs in collective shelters with support of humanitarian partners.
- On 4 and 5 March, Israeli forces issued a displacement orders to the population residing from the **Litani River to the border**, followed by a displacement order for one of the **large suburbs of southern Beirut** leading to a large scale movement in multiple directions.

CONFLICT INTENSITY MAP as of 5 March



SITUATION OVERVIEW

The current escalation in Lebanon is unfolding in the context of the wider **regional situation**. On 2 March, rockets and drones were launched from southern Lebanon by Hezbollah toward northern Israel. This was followed by **large-scale Israeli military operations across Lebanon**, causing **massive displacement and civilian casualties**. According to the Disaster Risk Management Unit (DRM), a total of **403 hostile incidents** had been recorded as of 5 March, reflecting the intensity and rapid pace of developments over recent days.

The escalation has resulted in a **growing number of civilian casualties**. According to the Public Health Emergency Operations Center at the Ministry of Public Health (MoPH), the cumulative toll of Israeli attacks

between the early hours of Monday, 2 March, and midnight on Thursday, 5 March, has reached **82 fatalities and 536 injuries**. These figures mark a sharp increase in casualties in a short period of time and highlight the severe humanitarian impact of the ongoing hostilities.

The rapid deterioration of security conditions has triggered large-scale displacement across several areas of the country. Thousands of displaced families have sought refuge in collective shelters, while many others are staying with host communities, sheltering in vehicles after displacement orders, or temporarily gathering along roadsides as they attempt to reach safer locations. As of 5 March, **approximately 96,000 internally displaced Lebanese have sought safety in 441 collective shelters**, according to DRM. This figure does not include **over 64,000 people who had remained displaced** since the previous escalation. Based on 2006 and 2024 trends, the overall number of displaced people is likely many times higher than the number of IDPs in collective shelters.

Successive mass evacuation orders have significantly intensified forced displacement. On 5 March, Israel issued evacuation orders for a large part of Beirut's Southern Suburb, while also banning travel toward southern areas, further limiting civilians' ability to move safely. Earlier, on 4 March, an evacuation order was announced for **the entire south of the Litani River**—an area of approximately 850 square kilometers and **home to at least 500,000 people**. These orders follow previous evacuation directives affecting **more than 110 towns and locations** near the border and in the southern suburbs of Beirut, significantly increasing the scale and complexity of population movements.

In parallel with heavy level and geo expansion of airstrikes, there are **growing reports of expanded Israeli military presence along the blue line**. This development raises serious concerns about the potential for further escalation, additional displacement, and prolonged instability in affected areas.

Masnaa and Al-Qaa remain the only official border crossings between Lebanon and Syria currently open. UNHCR reports that, according to the Governments of Lebanon and the Government of Syria **approximately 37,000 Syrians have crossed back into Syria and with a smaller number of Lebanese crossing from 2-4 March**. Crossings are continuing at a steady pace and border crossings open extended hours. Departures are higher than what is typically observed during the Ramadan period and the GSO has extended their hours to accommodate the departures.

The renewed hostilities are driving **heightened fear and psychological distress** among civilians, particularly among families, who have experienced repeated displacement. The growing influx of displaced people is placing severe pressure on collective shelters, host communities, and already overstretched public services, including healthcare, water, sanitation, and electricity systems. In a country already grappling with deep economic crisis and weakened public infrastructure, the current escalation risks **exacerbating humanitarian needs and further straining national response capacities** in the days ahead.

HUMANITARIAN RESPONSE

The Government of Lebanon (GoL) has identified **700 public schools to be used as collective shelters** for those displaced, including 11 shelters specifically designated for people with disabilities. The GoL has stated that shelters should be inclusive and accessible to all nationalities including non-Lebanese IDPs. Partners are reporting limited access to shelters for non-Lebanese populations in some locations. In response, specific sites for non-Lebanese have been identified in Bekaa, Beirut and Mount Lebanon (BML), while advocacy with local authorities is ongoing in other areas to ensure inclusive shelter access or alternative shelter options.

Under LRP framework, UN and NGO partners are mobilizing **shelter, food, water and essential supplies** to displaced households, especially those in collective sites based on available resources and contingency stocks in close coordination with Ministry of Social Affairs, sector line ministries, ISCG co-chairs and DRMs at national level and OCGs and local authorities at sub-national level. National NGOs remain essential in this and every

response, together with International NGOs and the United Nations working hand in hand to support the Government efforts in response to the increasing needs.

Shelter

Shelter sector partners have distributed at least 48,400 core relief items (mattresses, pillows, sleeping mats, sleeping bags, blankets) and approximately 5600 solar lamps and jerry cans in collective shelters across all governorates as of 5 March.

Water, Sanitation and Hygiene (WASH)

WASH partners have distributed a total of 6,672 kits (hygiene kits, baby kits, menstrual health kits, center kits) benefiting at least 30,000 IDPs, and 47,000 liters of drinking water. The total number of IDPs to be targeted based on current capacity is 56,115.

Food Security & Agriculture

Food security partners have distributed a total of 121,187 meals, including approximately 47,518 meals on 5 March alone, alongside 6,540 Ready-to-Eat kits.

Education

Education and protection partners are supporting displaced children through psychosocial support activities, recreational materials and the identification of learning options, including remote and alternative education modalities.

Social Stability

The **Tensions Monitoring System (TMS)**, as Lebanon's nationwide, area-based resource on social tensions drivers and patterns for Lebanon Response Plan (LRP) stakeholders, jointly stewarded by the Government of Lebanon (Ministries of Social Affairs and Interior) with UNDP and UNHCR, is contributing to **tensions mitigation by providing shared, triangulated tensions monitoring support for conflict-sensitive response actions, enabling institutions and sectors to identify recurring tension dynamics** early and to align preventive measures before pressures escalate. This started with the sharing of the scenario-based tensions and operational preparedness analysis collectively prepared with the ISCG, sectors, OCGs and DRM with the HCT.

Health

The Minister of Public Health has activated the **Health Sector Emergency Taskforce** and the Command-and-Control Centre (CCC) through the Public Health Emergency Operation Center (PHEOC) to coordinate medical evacuations, trauma care, emergency obstetric and newborn care, and referrals across ambulance services, designated trauma centers, and hospitals.

The ongoing conflict continues to disrupt public health services. As of 4 March 2026, **43 PHCCs and one hospital have closed** due to insecurity. According to WHO Surveillance System for Attacks on Health Care (SSA), **three attacks on healthcare workers** have resulted in three deaths and six injuries.

Large-scale displacement into overcrowded shelters is heightening **risks of communicable diseases outbreaks**, exacerbated by inadequate WASH conditions, while mental health needs are increasing. Access to maternal health services has sharply declined in Nabatieh and Marjeyoun, and CMR services are disrupted in Tyre due to PHCC closures.

MoPH is ensuring **coverage for Lebanese patients and coordinating hospitalization support for non-Lebanese IDPs**. In addition, MoPH has linked PHCCs and mobile clinics to active shelters to ensure continuity of primary healthcare services. **Hospitals are overwhelmed by a surge in trauma and emergency cases**, compounded by limited supplies and staffing.



Access and Civil-Military Coordination

Under the leadership of the Humanitarian Coordinator, the humanitarian community has been helping in addressing access constraints faced by partners and people in need of humanitarian assistance through the established **Civil-Military Coordination (CMCoord) Cell and Access Working Group**. Since 2 March, **three movements have been formally notified and successfully carried out** through the OCHA-managed humanitarian notification system (HNS). Movements included delivery of essential relief items, including mattresses, hygiene kits, and other basic supplies to a collective shelter. Another movement facilitated safe evacuation of a very vulnerable group of civilians from one of the border villages.



Protection

Under the Protection sector, the **Analysis and Monitoring Taskforce activated IDP protection monitoring** to identify protection risks and enable timely, life-saving interventions for vulnerable persons.

UNHCR's protection monitoring indicates **increased movement among refugees linked to insecurity, with early protection risks compounded by limited shelter options and emerging communal tensions**, including some host communities and municipalities cautious about receiving new arrivals (including refugees, migrants, and Lebanese of other denominations). **Limited access to collective shelters** is further constraining safe accommodation, and a number of refugees are expressing intentions to return to Syria due to the current situation. UNHCR continues to coordinate closely with authorities and partners as the situation evolves.

UNHCR estimates **approximately 215,000 refugees may have been affected** by the current escalation.

Humanitarian organizations urgently require funds to sustain ongoing response and in order to provide urgent humanitarian assistance to the people affected by this crisis. Further analysis of the needs is being developed to update the funding requirement to sustain the response. Partners urgently need funds to bring in essential relief items supplies, such as food, core relief items, medicines and shelter, for immediate humanitarian response in Lebanon, and to provide support through existing services.

GENERAL COORDINATION

The **Government of Lebanon is leading the overall coordination** of the emergency response to the escalation of hostilities. The Prime Minister has appointed the Minister of Social Affairs (MoSA) to lead the nation-wide emergency response in coordination with humanitarian and emergency actors to address the needs of conflict-affected populations. Within this framework, MoSA is leading the coordination of response in collective shelters, including the registration of IDPs and the distribution of humanitarian assistance for displaced families.

MoSA's coordination role is supported by several national institutions. The **High Relief Council (HRC)** plays a key role in the **delivery of humanitarian assistance and the facilitation of customs clearance for humanitarian relief items**, while the **National Disaster Risk Management Unit (DRM)** supports **data management and coordination of the broader national emergency response**, including information on displacement and hostilities. Together, these institutions form the core of the Government's coordination architecture for managing the current crisis.

Under the lead of the HC, humanitarian partners are responding through the framework of the **2026 Lebanon Response Plan (LRP)**. At the national level, inter-sector coordination under the LRP is supported by the **Inter-Sector Coordination Group (ISCG)**, co-chaired by MoSA, UNHCR, UNDP, and OCHA. Sectoral coordination is supported by the different sectors and working groups, including **Access, Assessment and Analysis, Cash, Information Management, Logistics, PSEA, and Accountability to Affected People (AAP)** led jointly by Government, UN, and NGOs. These mechanisms aim to ensure a coordinated and principled humanitarian response, facilitate information sharing, and support evidence-based decision-making during the evolving emergency.

At the **subnational level**, coordination is led by **Governors and the Disaster Risk Management (DRM) committees**, working in close collaboration with **Operational Coordination Groups (OCGs)** established under the LRP structure. This coordination mechanism aims to align government-led emergency management structures with humanitarian operational coordination in affected areas, ensuring that local authorities and humanitarian partners can jointly respond to emerging needs.

In the lead-up to the escalation, and as the situation evolved, several high-level coordination meetings were convened. In addition, the Humanitarian Coordinator is in contact with Government counterparts, mainly Minister of Social Affairs, and head of UN agencies on daily basis to ensure common understanding of the **key priorities of the emergency response**, discussing the anticipated operational challenges and critical response requirements. In addition, MoSA LRP General Supervisor, ISCG Co-Chairs (on rotation level) and Shelter, WaSH, and Food Security & Agriculture Sector coordinators/ co-coordinators are present in the operational national room in the Grand Serail to ensure efficient coordination with MoSA and DRMs.

In response to the rapidly deteriorating situation, an **ad hoc Humanitarian Country Team (HCT) meeting was convened on 4 March**, during which partners emphasized the importance of an **inclusive and coordinated humanitarian response**, the **reprogramming of existing funding**, and the **mobilization of additional resources** to address the rapidly increasing needs of conflict-affected populations across the country.

The **Inter-Sector Coordination Group (ISCG)**, co-chaired by MoSA, UNHCR, OCHA and UNDP, convened on 2 and 6 March and will continue meeting regularly with sector coordination teams and **Operational Coordination Groups (OCGs)** to ensure coherent operational coordination between government authorities and humanitarian partners as the situation evolves.

Following requests from operational partners, the **Government-humanitarian coordination architecture** linking the Disaster Risk Management (DRM) system with the Lebanon Response Plan (LRP) coordination structure was further clarified. This aims to ensure predictable information flows between national authorities, sector coordination teams and field-level partners, and to streamline operational decision-making during the emergency response. The note is available **here**.

The **Inter-Sector Information Management (IM)** has activated a simplified daily reporting through **ActivityInfo** to track response activities and service delivery across collective shelters and host communities for LRP partners. Reported data feeds into national coordination mechanisms and supports situational awareness, operational prioritization and public information products.

The Inter-Sector Information Management (IM) team has additionally established a **set of emergency response tools** to support coordination and situational awareness, including dashboards on contingency stocks, collective shelter masterlist, and service mapping linked to ActivityInfo reporting. The page is available **here**.