

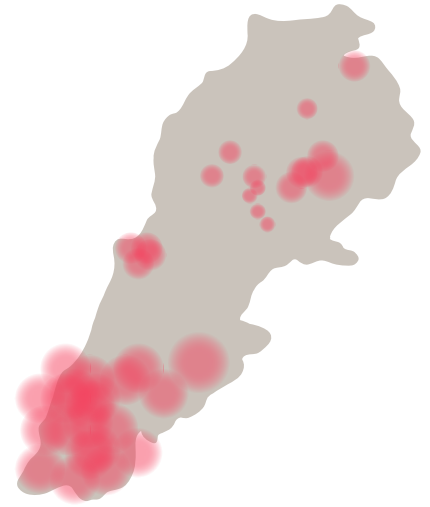
MIDDLE EAST CRISIS (MEC) ESCALATION | SITREP #2

24 SEPTEMBER - 9 OCTOBER 2024

World Vision
الرؤية العالمية

General overview

Since October 2023, World Vision (WV) Lebanon has been responding to the devastating impacts of the military escalations in Southern Lebanon, reaching **46,636** people, including more than **17,209** children between 13 October–31 August with its multisector response interventions. On 23 September, conflict started to escalate quickly, its impact reaching central part of Lebanon, including Bekaa and Beirut. Lebanon's Ministry of Public Health reports that as of 9 October, nearly **2,119** people have been killed, including at least **127** children, and more than **10,019** have been injured. More than **1.2 million** people have been directly affected and/or have been forced to flee from their homes for safety to other parts of the country. More than **181,700** internally displaced people (IDP), half of them women and children, have sought safety at one of the more than **990** temporary shelters set up in schools and other administrative buildings.



In Year 1 of the MEC response, WV Lebanon reached:



46,636 People
reached

Men 14,978
Women 14,449



including
17,209 Children

Boys 8,390
Girls 8,819

Urgent international humanitarian intervention is critical as the conflict escalates further.

As a result of the escalation, WV Lebanon launched phase 3 of the MEC response.

Between 23 September–9 October, WV Lebanon has reached more than **126,325** IDPs, that is **25,265** families including **44,214** children in **219** shelters with:

- Distribution of **8,567** ready to eat RTEs.
- Distribution of **734** light RTEs.
- Distribution of **906** food parcels.
- Distribution of **500** B2 parcels.
- Provision of **323,528** hot meals.
- Provision of **71,463** cold meals.
- Distribution of **21,327** packs of bread.
- Distribution of **3,404** mattresses.
- Distribution of **2,765** blankets.
- Distribution of **1,056** water bottles (0.33L), **10,087** water bottles (2L), **470** gallons, **1** water tank (1,000L), **4** water tank (2,000L), and provision of **114** water trucking (m3).
- Distribution of **19,256** KG as supplies for kitchens.
- Distribution of **19** chlore unit.
- Distribution of **141** cleaning towel.
- Distribution of **8** shower heads.
- Distribution of **2** water heater.
- Provision of **1,000** gloves.
- Distribution of **12** soap.
- Distribution of **10,800** trash bags.
- Distribution of **280** waste bins.
- Distribution of **1,390** hygiene kits.
- Provision of **50** sanitisers.
- Provision of **241** as psychosocial support (PSS) session.
- Distribution of **380** Learning kit.



126,325 IDPs
reached



323,528 hot meals
provided



71,463 cold meals
provided



assistance to meet basic food, shelter, health, and water, sanitation, and hygiene (WASH) needs



the empowerment of local actors with contextually appropriate community-level contingency planning, disaster risk reduction (DRR), and protection



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Weekly Update

This week, our response team, led by Fares Samaha Response Program Manager, successfully reached Tyre, a city in southern Lebanon now considered a red zone, a region where access is severely limited or risky due to ongoing conflict, violence, or other hazards. After extensive external engagements and the vital support of the United Nations Office for the Coordination of Humanitarian Affairs (OCHA), we were able to navigate the dangerous roads and access this critical area. Tyre, like many other unreachable regions, is home to a significant number of IDPs, who have been receiving minimal humanitarian aid due to the ongoing conflict and hazardous conditions.

Despite these challenges, World Vision is committed to delivering much-needed assistance. Our team has been providing food supplies to the community kitchens, which are still operational despite the overwhelming difficulties, ensuring that displaced families receive hot meals. Additionally, we are distributing bread and blankets as temperatures drop and the cold of winter approaches.

The needs in Tyre are immense, and while we are doing our best to address them, the situation remains critical. Tyre is just one of many areas where IDPs are stranded with limited access to humanitarian aid.



Needs



Food security and nutrition

- More than 346,209 IDPs are currently in need of food support
- Activation of 5 kitchens and community kitchens



Basic assistance and WASH

- All IDPs require immediate assistance of mattresses, blankets, pillows, and hygiene kits
- All shelters are in need for fuel for generators



Education and child protection

- Projected to provide retention support for students based on the decision to delay the start of the scholastic year, due to the number of schools that are used as IDP shelters
- Psychosocial first aid (PFA) support for children and families in IDP shelters

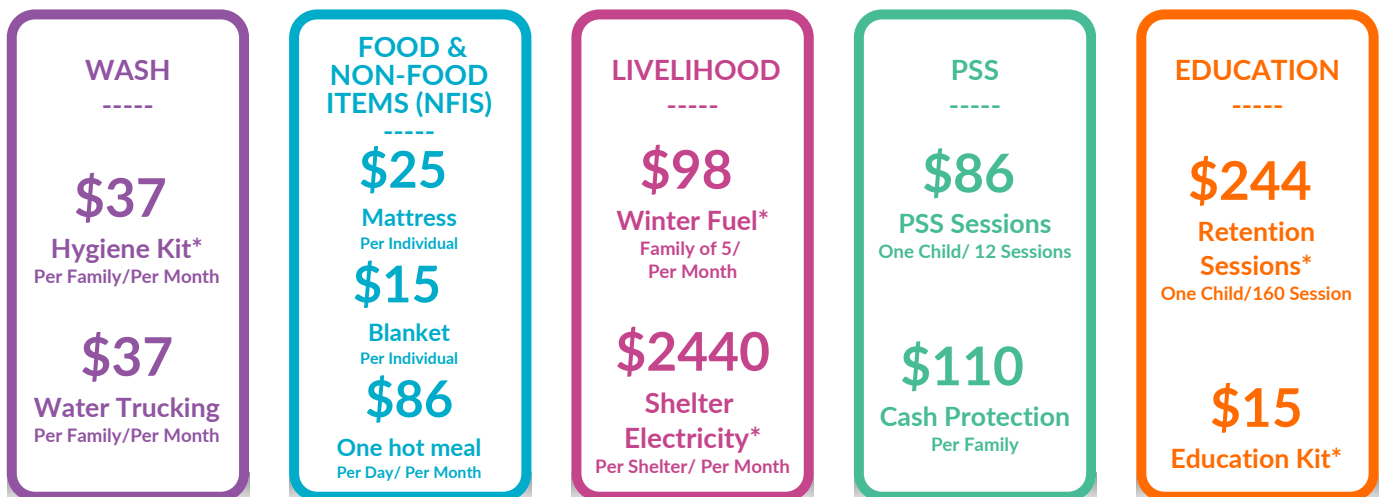


Protection and gender equality, disability, and social inclusion (GEDSI)

- All IDPs need to have safe and accessible shelters
- All IDPs need to have safe WASH facilities and/or menstrual hygiene kits

Handles in USD

Supporting vulnerable communities through essential aid ensures that each donation helps deliver life-saving services.



Hygiene kits help prevent disease by maintaining cleanliness in overcrowded shelters. Winter fuel is vital in cold regions like Lebanon to prevent illness and provide warmth. Shelter and electricity ensure safety and dignity, and without funding, families may face unsafe living conditions. Retention sessions help keep children in school despite crises. Educational kits provide children with the basic tools they need to continue learning, even in difficult circumstances.



Key Advocacy Messages



Prioritising the protection and well-being of children

World Vision Lebanon is prioritising the protection and well-being of over 12,000 children across seven conflict-affected areas. While most development programming is paused, life-saving activities must continue, including mental health and psychosocial support (MHPSS).



Urgently funding humanitarian response needs

Lebanon's humanitarian response is critically underfunded, and additional resources are urgently needed to support the US\$426 million Lebanon Flash Appeal.



Ensuring unimpeded humanitarian access

The conflict has severely restricted humanitarian access, making it difficult to deliver essential aid like food, medical care, and shelter. We call on international actors to advocate for unimpeded access and urge all parties to allow safe passage for humanitarian convoys.



Protecting humanitarian and medical workers

Aid workers are not targets, and all parties must respect their protection under international humanitarian law (IHL). World Vision Lebanon is providing care and relocation support to affected staff, but increased funding is urgently needed to ensure the safety and well-being of frontline workers.



Ensuring inclusivity for displaced populations within responses

Donor governments and Lebanese authorities must ensure an inclusive, non-discriminatory response, prioritising vulnerable groups such as women and children. If Syrian refugees choose to repatriate, their return must be voluntary, safe, and secure, while expedited visa processes should prioritize reuniting families and urgent medical cases.



Urgently calling for the protection of civilians

The conflict has caused immense destruction and suffering, particularly among civilians. International actors, especially UN Security Council members, must urgently leverage their influence to secure a cessation of hostilities and prevent further loss of life.



Strengthening coordination and scale-up efforts

New and existing sectoral coordination structures must be strengthened and integrated to support the humanitarian scale-up.



Addressing donor conditionalities

Donor restrictions limiting flexibility must be addressed to ensure an effective humanitarian response. We will advocate for conditions that allow swift, adaptable action in the evolving crisis.



Engaging international coverage of the crisis

An emergency visit by the IASC Executive Directors Group (EDG) to Lebanon would be helpful to increase international attention on the crisis and prompt more immediate global action and funding.

Calls to Action

World Vision is appealing to international donors, governments, and global partners to:



Increase **FINANCIAL CONTRIBUTIONS** to the Lebanon Flash Appeal and World Vision's emergency response efforts.



Facilitate **HUMANITARIAN ACCESS** by ensuring safe conditions for aid delivery.



Pressure parties to **RESPECT IHL** with a focus on protection of civilians, aid and medical workers, and refugees and migrants.



PRIORITISE vulnerable groups, particularly women and children, including investing in child protection programmes, including mental health support for children traumatised by the conflict.

Children in Lebanon are bearing the brunt of this crisis. Without immediate action, their future is at risk. All stakeholders must come together to prevent further loss of life, protect children, and provide the resources needed to meet the massive humanitarian needs on the ground.

Contact

For more information, please contact:

Heidi Diedrich
National Director - World Vision Lebanon
Phone: +9613996396
Email: heidi_diedrich@wvi.org

Tata Mikeladze
Regional HEA Director - MEER
Phone: +995 599 414184
Email: tata_mikeladze@wvi.org

For media enquiries, please contact:

Josephine Haddad
Public Affairs & Communications Manager - WV
Phone: +961 3 041967
Email: josephine_haddad@wvi.org

Micah Branaman
Regional Director - Communications and Advocacy - MEER
Phone: +1 469 286 5662
Email: micah_branaman@wvi.org

