

MIDDLE EAST CRISIS (MEC) ESCALATION | SITREP #3

24 SEPTEMBER - 16 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 2023 and 31 August 2024 with its multisector response interventions. On 23 September, the conflict started to escalate quickly, its impact reaching the central part of Lebanon, including Bekaa and Beirut. Lebanon's Ministry of Public Health reports that as of 16 October, nearly **2,367** people have been killed, including at least **127** children, and more than **11,106** 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 **190,698** internally displaced people (IDP), half of them women and children, have sought safety at one of the more than **1,076** temporary shelters set up in schools and other administrative buildings.

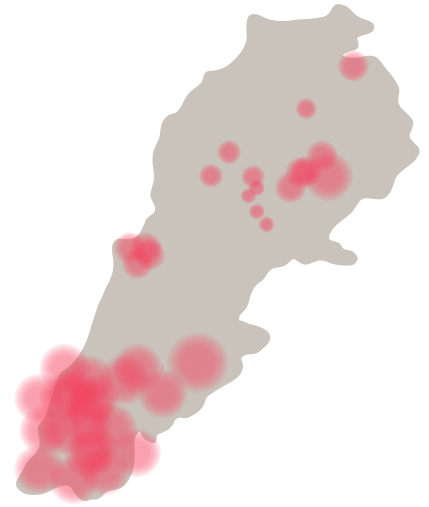
In Year 1 of the MEC response, WV Lebanon reached:



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–16 October, WV Lebanon has reached more than **154,656** IDPs, that is **30,931** families including **54,130** children in **275** shelters with:

- Distribution of **8,627** ready to eat RTEs.
- Distribution of **1,010** light RTEs.
- Distribution of **1,128** food parcel
- Distribution of **2,070** B2 parcels.
- Provision of **521,126** hot meals.
- Provision of **166,085** cold meals.
- Distribution of **34,727** packs of bread.
- Distribution of **5,772** mattresses.
- Distribution of **6,949** blankets.
- Distribution of **2,256** water bottles (0.33L), **10,246** water bottles (2L), **770** gallons, **1** water tank (1,000L), **4** water tank (2,000L), **6** desludging (m3) and provision of **292** water trucking (m3).
- Distribution of **23,591** KG as supplies for kitchens.
- Distribution of **1,290** pillows.
- 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 **19** chlore unit.
- Distribution of **1,492** hygiene kits.
- Provision of **50** sanitisers.
- Provision of **241** as psychosocial support (PSS) session.
- Distribution of **380** Learning kit.



154,656 IDPs reached



521,126 hot meals provided



166,085 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

WASH Assessments: We have commenced WASH assessments in 24 schools across the Beirut and Mount Lebanon (BML) region to evaluate water, sanitation, and hygiene conditions. The assessments are aimed at identifying urgent needs and ensuring safe learning environments for students.

Support to MEHE: We are actively supporting the Ministry of Education and Higher Education (MEHE) in setting up tablets for students in the Bekaa and Baalbeck-Hermel regions. This initiative will benefit over 8,000 students by enhancing their access to digital learning tools.

Coordination with UNOCHA and WFP: Our team is coordinating with the United Nations Office for the Coordination of Humanitarian Affairs (UNOCHA) and World Food Program (WFP) for critical missions to deliver aid to red-zone areas in Southern Lebanon. These efforts are part of the ongoing response to reach vulnerable populations in hard-to-access regions.

High-Level Visit to Zahle Shelter: On Sunday, we hosted high-level delegations, including the Deputy Executive Director of WFP and the Deputy Executive Director of the United Nations International Children's Emergency Fund (UNICEF), at one of the shelters in Zahle. The visit underscored the importance of collaborative efforts in supporting displaced communities and highlighted the ongoing humanitarian response in the region.

Needs



Food security and nutrition

- More than 1.2 million 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.

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