MIDDLE EAST CRISIS (MEC) | SITREP #6

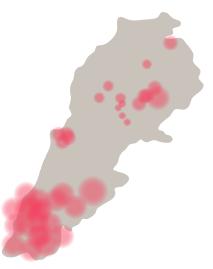
24 SEPTEMBER - 14 NOVEMBER 2024

World Vision لرؤية العالمية

Context Update

The conflict in Lebanon, which escalated in late September, has intensified significantly over the past ten days, reaching unprecedented levels nationwide. In the south, 37 villages and around 200,000 homes have been destroyed, leaving thousands homeless and displaced to shelters across the country. In Beirut's suburbs, relentless airstrikes have caused widespread destruction, with frequent evacuation orders. Despite the risks, many residents remain in their homes, and local markets, a key source of livelihoods, are still running.

A disturbing rise in attacks on emergency and rescue teams has killed 15 civil defence personnel and 19 paramedics in recent strikes on a Civil Defence Centre and an Islamic Health Authority centre in Baalbek-Hermel. This brings the total number of paramedic casualties to 211.



Heavy bombardments in Tyre have damaged archaeological sites, prompting urgent calls from UNESCO. In Akkar, Jiyeh, Saida, and Dawhet Aramoun, airstrikes on residential buildings without prior warnings have killed 66 civilians, most of them women and children. The destruction of homes has made it nearly impossible for displaced families to safely return home, increasing the urgent need for secure shelter across Lebanon.

Despite reported requests for UNIFIL to withdraw and attacks on their premises, the organisation has confirmed it will continue its mandate in southern Lebanon.

According to Lebanon's Ministry of Public Health, as of 4 November, 3,386 people have been killed, including at least 166 children, and more than 14,417 have been injured.





2,029,667 meals provided

1580 recreational activities

1380 learning kits

World Vision has reached 221,616 displaced people, including 44,323 families and 77,566 children, in 389 shelters with:

241 psychosocial support (PSS) sessions

• 12,321 sanitation supplies

• 26 prefab showers

• 8 shower heads

2 water heaters

• 2,302 hygiene kits

- 2,029,667 meals
- 3,688 food parcels
- 1,408 snacks
- 101,228 packs of bread
- 7,979 mattresses
- 12,197 blankets

- 7,142 pillows
- 51,250 kilogrammes of supplies for kitchens

- 36,746 litres drinking water, 10000 litre water tank, provision of 1,029 cubic metres of water

Needs Overview

Cash and Basic Assistance

World Vision is advocating for Multi-purpose Cash (MPC) assistance as a key approach to humanitarian aid in Lebanon. With rising displacement and conflict complicating aid delivery, the demand for cash assistance has increased. Cash-based support allows recipients the dignity to prioritise and meet their immediate needs and also boosts the local economy by injecting funds directly into communities. By helping to stabilise local markets, MPC not only addresses urgent needs but also supports a more sustainable aid model.







Food Security and Nutrition

Lebanon's food insecurity was already at crisis levels and is worsening as conflict disrupts supply chains and closes markets in affected areas like Nabatieh and Baalbek-El Hermel, where 80% and 42% of stores are closed, respectively. The South and Bekaa Valley-Lebanon's main agricultural hubs-are particularly at risk, with hostilities threatening over 60% of the nation's food production. As shortages grow, especially in Beirut, families face rising uncertainty about their next meal.

Children are especially vulnerable, with malnutrition rates climbing. Currently, 6,000 children are receiving nutritional supplements, and around 180 are in treatment programs. If the conflict continues, urgent, expanded support will be needed to prevent worsening hunger and ensure children's long-term health.

Nutrition programs are also struggling to support elderly people and those with disabilities, as fresh ingredients are limited in hot meal provisions. This shortage is critical, as many vulnerable individuals depend on these programs for primary nutrition.





Education and Child Protection

The academic year began on 4 November, but the ongoing crisis has limited schooling. Many schools are now temporary shelters, with only about 350 public schools offering in-person learning, while 397 operate remotely. An additional 45 schools serve as both shelters and classrooms, and nearly 177,000 students have returned to school. However, children with disabilities face additional barriers, underscoring the need for inclusive education. Tragically, Mar Charbel School in Jiyeh was damaged by an airstrike on the first day, highlighting the urgent need for stronger protections for schools in high-risk areas.

WASH (Water, Sanitation, and Hygiene)

Due to the ongoing crisis, around one million people in Lebanon urgently need safe water and sanitation. To counter the heightened risk of waterborne diseases, frontline workers are providing essential disease prevention training, including cholera awareness. Access to clean water and sanitation is especially strained in high-risk and collective shelter areas, where essential WASH services are often inadequate or absent. Isolated cholera cases in shelters emphasise the risk posed by limited sanitation and safe water access, increasing the vulnerability of displaced families.

Protection and Gender Equality, Disability, and Social Inclusion (GEDSI)

Shelter conditions for displaced families are insufficient, particularly for women and girls who lack safe spaces for hygiene. Limited access to menstrual hygiene kits and secure facilities endangers their health and dignity. Programmes focusing on GBV awareness and Protection Against Sexual Exploitation and Abuse (PSEA) are helping address these risks. Reproductive health services are also critical, with 13,900 displaced pregnant women, including 1,550 due to give birth next month, highlighting the urgent need for coordinated support to safeguard Lebanon's most vulnerable populations.

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Programme Update

Strengthening teacher capacity for resilient and inclusive learning in crises

The Ministry of Education and Higher Education (MEHE) has formally requested our support to repurpose the Teachers' Centre in Beirut as a dedicated hub for formal learning. In response, we are leading an initiative to strengthen teacher skills through targeted training programmes. These programmes focus on digital literacy, equipping educators to use online platforms effectively, manage virtual classrooms, and apply innovative assessment methods suitable for both digital and traditional learning environments. By developing these skills and adaptive teaching methods, the programme empowers educators to uphold educational standards, meet students' diverse needs in crisis settings, and contribute to a resilient and inclusive education system that can endure Lebanon's current challenges.

Enhancing food security and dignity for displaced families in Dekweneh Shelter

World Vision recently held a high-level meeting with representatives from OCHA, the Food Security sector, and the Basic Assistance sector at the Dekweneh shelter. The discussions focused on improving food quality and distribution for internally displaced people. World Vision has partnered with a community kitchen at the shelter, providing fresh ingredients to prepare nutritious meals for all residents. The meeting also emphasised transitioning to multi-purpose cash assistance, which allows individuals to address their needs independently while preserving dignity.



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 International Humanitarian Law 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 critical humanitarian needs on the ground.

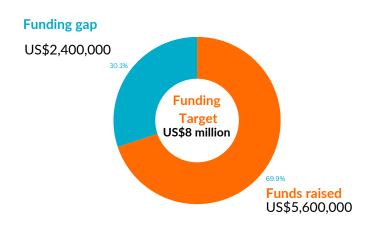








Funding Update



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