



Qamar, 11 years old, is attending Maaroub Saad intermediate public school in Saida after being displaced from Shibaa.

Lebanon Humanitarian Situation Report No. 2

unicef 
for every child

Reporting Period: 9 October – 1 November 2023

Highlights

- As of 7 November, 11,942 people, including 4,135 children, have been displaced in the South and Nabatieh governorates due to the rise in conflict along the Lebanon and Israel border.
- During the reporting period, the first batch of emergency preparedness health supplies for UNICEF arrived in country, which included emergency medications and consumables as well as midwifery, obstetric, and medication kits to ensure child, adolescent, maternal, and newborn wellbeing. The procured supplies are sufficient to cover the needs of 100,000 people.
- UNICEF distributed 680 hygiene kits, reaching up to 4,080 individuals, and 2,746 disinfection kits, reaching up to 7,194 people.
- Designated shelters have been provided with 10,000 liters of emergency water trucking, which can support up to 400 people.

Situation in Numbers



4,135

Children are displaced



6,536

Children and youth impacted by school closures



372,000

People have been indirectly affected



709

People have been displaced across four shelters

Overview and Humanitarian Needs

Lebanon continues to witness daily clashes along the border with Israel since 8 October, which have impacted both civilians and civilian facilities in southern Lebanon and have further strained the ability of Lebanon's public sector to deliver support to secondarily displaced populations. Parallel to this, Lebanon's economic and financial crisis remains ongoing, with nearly three quarters of the population living below the poverty line. **By 1 November, 10,865 were reportedly displaced, including 4,477 children**, according to the Disaster Risk Reduction (DRR) and Disaster Risk Management (DRM) governmental units. UNICEF received reports of infrastructure damage, including to Duhaira reservoir which provides drinking water to approximately 2,000 people in Duhaira and Yarin villages. Unfortunately, South Lebanon Water Establishment (SLWE) could not repair the reservoir due to the continued insecurity in the area.

Displaced families are moving towards Beirut, Nabatiyeh, Tyre, or other areas close to their relatives. Most families that have fled are from 'Blue Line' areas - the demarcation line between Lebanon and Israel set by the UN in 2000 to confirm the withdrawal of Israeli forces from the south of Lebanon - of Aita El Chaab, Al Duhayra, Marwahin, and Alma Ech Chaab. **An estimated 80 per cent of the population in these villages**

have left the area due to their proximity to crossfire in Duhaira and Yarine villages and approximately 70-80 per cent are displaced within the South and Nabatiyeh governorates.

On 31 October, the **Minister of Education and Higher Education (MEHE) closed 14 public schools in Nabatiyeh governorate, impacting 2,524 registered children, and 5 schools in South governorate impacting 446 registered children.** 10 TVET public schools, impacting 3,363 youth, were also closed due to their proximity to the southern border. The DRR unit facilitated the placement of IDPs in three public schools in Tyre, initially resulting in the closure of these schools and leaving an additional 803 children out of school. This week, one school was reopened with 600 students using the empty classrooms. Regular meetings were held with the DRR and the school director to address the daily operation of the school and the school also has a second shift which has begun registering students. **UNICEF continues to advocate use other shelters in the area rather than schools to ensure education remains accessible.**

To date, **503 people are currently displaced in the three shelters in Tyre city and 214 are displaced in the Lebanese German University.** The immediate needs of displaced families, especially those in collective shelters, have been identified as non-food items such as mattresses, hygiene kits (including dignity kits), cash, food, water, diapers for infants, and medicine. In some cases, families left their home without having time to pack enough belongings for their children, such as clothes and learning materials. With the onset of winter looming, it will be critical to ensure children have warm clothing, especially those who are displaced.

UNICEF's Emergency Preparedness and Programmatic Response

Across Lebanon, **UNICEF supports the most vulnerable children and young people through integrated, gender responsive, and disability inclusive programming** that targets affected populations regardless of nationality, balancing humanitarian and development interventions and in line with a do no harm approach.

To respond to the current crisis, UNICEF's scale-up strategy includes the following:

- Enhance UNICEF's regular programme to ensure it is shock-responsive;
- Balance service outreach and the integration of IDPs into existing programmes;
- Leverage flexible and accessible on-the-ground presence, including additional resourcing in hot spot areas of displacement;
- Localized, integrated, multisectoral operations with the government, including the DRR.

UNICEF is advocating to ensure that emergency shelters remain 'transit centres' where displaced families can have their immediate needs met and be supported to move to safer and more dignified options of their choosing. Parallel to this, UNICEF is also conducting outreach with displaced families residing in the host community, as well as the families remaining in the conflict zone, to ensure services remain accessible to these families. UNICEF will continue referral services in communities for displaced persons.

Water, Sanitation and Hygiene (WASH)

In response to the increasing number of IDPs in Lebanon, UNICEF has begun an emergency WASH response at both the community and water station levels. **UNICEF provided 680 hygiene kits, reaching up to 4,080 IDPs, and 2,746 disinfection kits, reaching up to 7,194 IDPs.** In addition, **35,700 bottles of water (2 litres each) have been distributed to 7,194 IDPs. The designated shelters have also been provided with 10,000l of emergency water trucking, which supported up to 400 people.** Simultaneously, shelters are also receiving emergency WASH rehabilitation and maintenance comprised of water heater installation, latrines, and pipes to ensure the connection of the shelter to basic water and sanitation services.

UNICEF supported South Lebanon Water Establishment (SLWE) with emergency repairs across three wells in the vicinity of the border area near to Fakhreddine station. **This will improve water provision to 18,000 beneficiaries** (6,318 women, 5,436 men, 3,150 girls, and 3,096 boys) in Nabatiyeh. For contingency

purposes, **UNICEF has also provided SLWE 750kg of gas chlorine and 1,530kg of powder chlorine to Saida station to maintain its water supply in an emergency.**

Health

The first batch of emergency health and nutrition preparedness supplies for UNICEF arrived in country, which can support up to 100,000 people. This included emergency medications and consumables as well as midwifery, obstetric, and emergency health kits to ensure child, adolescent, maternal, and newborn wellbeing. The supplies will be distributed and prepositioned in health facilities as well as in UNICEF warehouses across the country to ensure timely mobilization if and when needed.

UNICEF is providing community-based midwifery services to displaced pregnant women outside of the collective shelters and is maintaining adequate stocks of all childhood vaccines in the country to support the Ministry of Public Health (MoPH) to continue delivering vaccination services at primary healthcare centres (PHCs) and dispensaries. In addition to ensuring adequate stocks of all vaccines to cover the next three to six months, UNICEF has also already placed advance orders for an additional six months, should the current situation in Lebanon escalate and cause supply-related challenges. **UNICEF deployed two Mobile Vaccination Units (MVUs) in affected areas hosting displaced populations to provide integrated services to infants, children, and adolescents including Psychological Support (PSS) and Psychological First Aid (PFA).**

Based on coordination with the MoPH, UNICEF is currently working in one shelter to deliver critical health services. Thus far, **UNICEF has checked the routine immunization status of 87 children and their caregivers.** The majority of the families did not have their vaccination cards and reported that their children had completed their vaccinations; therefore only **9 children were vaccinated on the spot** and UNICEF has organized a follow-up with the rest to ensure proper and timely vaccinations based on their needs.

In addition, **13 PHC staff were trained on early childhood development and data collection at the field level in six PHCs in the south, while 14 staff were trained in five PHCs in Beirut and Mount Lebanon.** This training aims to build the capacity of the staff to respond to the increased needs of IDPs and host communities. A mapping of the active PHCs in the South and Nabatiyeh is taking place to understand their readiness and current response plan.

Nutrition

As part of its emergency preparedness plan, **UNICEF procured emergency nutrition supplies to meet the nutritional needs of 48,500 children, adolescents, and their caregivers.** Within the shelters, 58 children and PLWs are currently enrolled in the malnutrition programme in South and Nabatiyeh governorates. **Micronutrient supplements have been provided to 107 children** between the ages of six to 59-months. **Counselling sessions on nutrition and optimum infant and young child feeding (IYCF) were provided to 3,030 caregivers of children under five** (both in shelters and host communities) to promote nutrition and care for child development since the beginning of the crisis.

A weekly IYCF rapid assessment has been undertaken in shelters, where **46 children under the age of two have been assessed.** The results of the assessment have revealed the urgent need to scale up services to protect optimum IYCF. To support this, a detailed operational plan and SOPs for establishing Mother Baby Corners (MBC) will be developed and endorsed by the MoPH ahead of operationalizing MBC services in shelters.

The sub-national Nutrition Sector coordination platform has been activated for South and Beirut Mount Lebanon (BML) to enhance coordination.

Child Protection

UNICEF, jointly with its implementing partners, continued to deliver child protection activities in the three schools designated as shelters for IDPs in Tyre. In total, **1,398 beneficiaries were supported (428 women, 26 men, 705 girls, and 239 boys; 63 Syrian refugees, 1,323 Lebanese, and 12 other) through a package of prevention and response child protection and GBV interventions since the onset of the emergency.** This includes 39 children (24 girls and 15 boys) who received specialised case management services including six children (3 girls and 3 boys) with disabilities and three children (2 girls and 1 boy) registered as separated from their primary caregiver. To respond to the urgent needs of adolescent girls and women, **312 Laha (“dignity” in Arabic) kits were distributed.** Additionally, non-food items (NFI) were also provided to affected children and their families through case management services which can include medication, clothing, and emergency cash assistance.

UNICEF and partners are working to **establish safe spaces**, and an initial group of 10 women and 20 girls were supported. These activities aim to provide an area where women and girls feel safe and can socialize to re-build their social network and access safe and non-stigmatizing multi-sectorial GBV response services (including psychosocial, legal, and medical services). Scaling up psychological first aid (PFA) services has been a critical component of the ongoing response, with 465 beneficiaries (30 women, 346 girls, and 89 boys) receiving support.). Protection monitoring assessments remain ongoing, with a particular focus placed on child protection and GBV trends. New children moving into the centers have demonstrated severe psychological distress and anxiety such as excessive fear and sleeping disorders. Therefore, UNICEF provided **12 community-based psychosocial support sessions to 186 children** (85 girls and 101 boys) which aimed to help children regain a sense of normalcy, enhance their resilience, and reintroduce routine in their lives. Non-specialized **psychosocial sessions 26 focused were also delivered to 185 beneficiaries** (81 women, 26 men, 44 girls, and 34 boys). Information and key messages on child protection continue to be disseminated, with 318 beneficiaries (197 women, and 121 girls) reached thus far. UNICEF continues to monitor, verify, and report grave violations against children’s rights during armed conflict and has distributed 2,500 flyers and 270 posters on the risks of landmines and Explosive Remnants of War (ERW).

Education

Under its formal education programme, **UNICEF continued to support public schools by assisting 5,853 IDPs in accessing formal education and ensuring their education remained uninterrupted** by profiling and relocating them to safe schools. Over 800 children in two Tyre primary schools that are being used as shelters were moved to an alternative school to resume their education. To do this, UNICEF conducted assessments in partnership with MEHE and implementing partners to evaluate school capacities for enrolling additional students and to identify non-operational schools that could be repurposed as shelters

Under its nonformal education programme, **out of the five ‘Makani’ (‘my space’) community centres previously closed, three have reopened while two are still affected by the ongoing situation.** UNICEF is actively involved in providing remedial education, catch-up classes, and learning support to mitigate learning losses in Makani community centres. Currently, **UNICEF operates 15 Makani community centres in South and Nabatiyeh governorates reaching 5,200 children.**

Adolescent and Youth Development and Participation

In response to the growing needs of internally displaced families, UNICEF is adapting its response to meet the needs of IDPs. Thus far, 50 youth (all women) have been trained and employed and have produced 2,721 winter clothing kits as part of UNICEF’s winterization plan. Each kit is equipped with essential items including blankets, cotton bodysuits, jackets, tracksuits, wool gloves, and scarves. As of 1 November, **331 kits have been distributed across four shelters in the Tyre area, reaching 331 children and youth between the ages of 0-24.** Additionally, a stockpile of 1,100 kits will be kept in the Tyre warehouse as part of UNICEF’s preparedness efforts, should there be an additional need for these kits.

Risk Communication and Community Engagement (RCCE)

UNICEF is providing technical support and mainstreaming social and behavioural change and RCCE across its programmes to promote lifesaving, protective, and healthy practices and behaviours as well as improving access to services through awareness raising and community engagement. This includes **sharing inclusive and gender-sensitive key messages** as well as information, education, and communication (IEC) material on health, hygiene, child protection, mental health, nutrition, water safety, protection, explosive ordnance risk education (EORE), and access to education. Information is shared to ensure that all actors on the ground can utilise IEC materials effectively.

UNICEF is also utilising its community-based social listening programme which monitors and analyses community conversations and perceptions to identify risky behaviours and understand prevailing concerns, misconceptions, and information needs in affected areas.

Accountability to Affected Populations (AAP)/ Prevention of Sexual Exploitation and Abuse (PSEA)

In response to the increasing needs of the affected groups, UNICEF is conducting internal and external trainings including with partner staff, volunteers, and community leaders on AAP and PSEA protocols. UNICEF will continue to promote safe reporting channels, including its call centre, to ensure IDPs and other affected populations can share their views, enquire about services, and report any concerns or wrongdoings.

Humanitarian Coordination and Strategy

At the national level, the government continues to strengthen preparedness under the leadership of the Prime Minister who has confirmed the coordination role of the President of the Council of Ministers. The National DRR Committee has been activated, under the leadership of the Minister of Environment, for cross-ministerial coordination with the Disaster Risk Management unit's technical support at the national and sub-national levels. At the sub-national level, the lead-role of governors, mayors, and heads of the municipal union remains in line with the national Disaster Risk Reduction (DRR) strategy.

UNICEF is strengthening its capacity in the South and Nabatiyeh governorates and has temporarily deployed an emergency response team to support inter-sector coordination, scale up UNICEF's response plan, and ensure there is sufficient capacity to meet the needs of the response. In addition, UNICEF has prepositioned critical lifesaving supplies in Tyre and has identified additional warehouse capacity near Saida city.

The Humanitarian Community in Lebanon is also enhancing its coordination structure through the creation of the new Inter-Sector Coordination Group (ISCG), that combines all relevant sectors currently operating in Lebanon under the Lebanon Crisis Response Plan (LCRP) and the Emergency Response Plan (ERP), and with the potential activation of the ECT and Log Cluster should the situation develop into a large-scale emergency. Within this structure, UNICEF is leading the WASH, Education, and Nutrition sectors as well as the Child Protection sub-sector. UNICEF is also a member of the Health, GBV, Gender, Livelihoods, and Basic Assistance sectors. At the sub-national level, the regional inter-sector working groups (ISWG) is supporting local government-led coordination, including providing support in gap identification and referrals. The ISWG is providing input into national contingency planning, as well as coordinating the business continuity of ongoing interventions.

Funding Overview

While responding to the needs of the displaced population so far, UNICEF is preparing for a scenario where conflict escalates rapidly and up to one million people are affected across the country. In this scenario, UNICEF Lebanon has estimated that US\$ 39.6 million - which includes US\$ 6 million for supplies and partnerships – would be required to provide life-saving services across Lebanon over the first three months of the scaleup.

Thus far, UNICEF Lebanon has received an internal loan of US\$ 2,000,000 through the Headquarters' Emergency Programme Fund (EPF). This timely and flexible funding allows UNICEF to scale up lifesaving humanitarian action quickly to ensure the needs of the most vulnerable can be met. In addition, US\$ 2,400,000 has been internally reprogrammed from flexible funding to meet the urgent and rising needs of displaced populations and host communities.

Programme	Funding Needed (\$)
WASH	\$14,975,600
Health	\$4,600,000
Nutrition	\$4,500,000
Child Protection	\$4,500,000
Education	\$4,375,000
Social Protection and Policy	\$4,000,000
Youth and Adolescents	\$2,000,000
RCCE	\$300,000
Cross Sectoral (including AAP, PSEA, and Communications)	\$350,000
Total	\$39,600,600

For more information please contact:

Edouard Beigbeder
 Representative
 UNICEF Lebanon
 Email: ebeigbeder@unicef.org

Ettie Higgins
 Deputy Representative
 UNICEF Lebanon
 Email: ehiggins@unicef.org

Sonia Vila Hopkins
 Chief of Partnerships
 UNICEF Lebanon
 Email:
 svilahopkins@unicef.org

