

Response & Preparedness Plan

Southern Border Hostilities

July – December 2024

www.unicef.it/emergenze/bambini-in-fuga

Humanitarian Situation

The hostilities on the Lebanon-Israel border have progressively intensified since October 2023, with exchanges of fire becoming more frequent, severe, and widespread. An estimated 80% of the population of Lebanon's southern villages have left their homes, resulting in over 96,000 Internal Displaced Persons (IDPs), including more than 30,000 children.ⁱ The majority of IDPs are living with host families or renting alternative accommodation, as per table I.

The Lebanese Ministry of Public Health reported over 1,300 people injured, including 125 children, and 435 people killed, including 12 children, as of 26 June 2024. Public infrastructure has been damaged, including 13 water stations serving 180,000 people, and 10 Primary Health Care Centres serving 115,000 people, including 32,000 children. More than 60 private and public schools are closed, including eight TVET schools, disrupting education for over 20,000 students.

Detailed updates on the situation in Lebanon are available via UNICEF's SitReps issued regularly. The [Caught in the Crossfire](#) report highlights the impact on children of the first six months of the conflict.

Table I: Lebanon IDPs distribution per shelter type

Host family/relatives:	82%
Rental housing:	15%
Collective shelters:	1%
Other:	2%

IOM DTM, Round 39, July 2024

UNICEF Programmatic Response Strategy

The strategy of UNICEF's programmatic response in Lebanon focuses on supporting IDPs while addressing pre-existing vulnerabilities in Lebanon in order to mitigate social tensions related to short and long-term secondary displacement. UNICEF will expand the scale of its existing programmes in non-conflict areas to support IDPs living in **host communities**, balancing expansion of regular programming with outreach to those remaining in **stranded areas** and support to the minority of IDPs in **collective shelters**. UNICEF's Palestinian Programme will continue supporting vulnerable children and families living in **Palestinian Camps** in Lebanon. The strategy includes the following components:

- Leverage UNICEF's **on-the-ground presence**, including the rapid mobilisation of capacities in hotspot areas, and expanding partnerships with actors able to reach those in conflict zones;
- Enhance UNICEF's regular programmes to ensure shock-responsiveness by **prepositioning emergency supplies** and **diversifying operational modalities** to deliver services and goods;
- Promote channels for IDPs and host communities to provide programming input and feedback in a timely and dignified manner per **Accountability to Affected Populations (AAP)** standards;
- Mainstream **Prevention of Sexual Exploitation and Abuse (PSEA)** and mobilise trusted community leaders to disseminate accurate information about available services and expected conduct by response workers;
- Enhance **gender-responsive** and **disability-inclusive** programming, targeting affected populations regardless of nationality, balancing humanitarian-development needs, as per a 'do no harm' approach;
- Strengthen localised and multisectoral operations with the Government at **national and sub-national levels**, including the Disaster Risk Reduction (DRR) and the Disaster Risk Management (DRM) Units.

UNICEF Response Plan: July – December 2024

UNICEF's Response Plan is aligned with the Government-led scenario of **200,000 people affected in Lebanon**, including an estimated 66,000 children. UNICEF is simultaneously enhancing the procurement and repositioning of contingency resources to prepare for a potential higher number of affected people (up to one million). The sections below summarise the activities planned per programmatic area and related implementation approaches.

Water, Sanitation and Hygiene (WASH)



Target for July-December 2024: 200,000 people will be provided with safe access to a sufficient quantity and quality of water to meet their drinking and domestic needs.

UNICEF's WASH response approach is based on: (i) Providing emergency, safe, gender and disability responsive water supplies and sanitation facilities to affected populations, including those cut off from the public supply and living in shelters; (ii) Providing emergency spare parts, chlorine, consumables and fuel to support the public water system operations; (iii) Rapid repairs for affected WASH infrastructure; (iv) Providing hygiene, menstrual, and baby kits for affected groups, including Syrian Refugees and Palestinian camps; and (v) Supporting effective leadership & coordination of the WASH Sector in Lebanon.

Health



Target for July-December 2024: 100,000 children, adolescents, and pregnant women will receive essential health services including first aid, antenatal care, immunization, disease outbreak prevention, and management of childhood illnesses.

UNICEF's Health response approach is based on: (i) Deploying Mobile Medical Units to hot-spot areas for screening and first aid services; (ii) Providing emergency hospital care for newborns and infants; (iii) Procuring and supplying Emergency Health Kits, essential medications and medical supplies to ensure uninterrupted services; (iv) Providing onsite integrated Primary Health Care and community-level services; and (v) Conducting immunization sessions in displacement hot-spots and host communities and providing psychosocial support for children attending vaccination sessions.

Nutrition and Child Development



Target for July-December 2024: 65,000 children, adolescents, and caregivers will be supported with nutrition and early childhood development (ECD) services.

UNICEF's Nutrition response approach is based on: (i) Providing nutrition services for wasted children, including screening, referrals, and treatment; (ii) Preventing women and children from micronutrient deficiencies through the provision of anaemia and micronutrient supplementation; (iii) Procuring and distributing nutrition supplies; (iv) Scaling up and sustaining optimum infant & young children feeding; (v) Providing essential ECD services and supporting parents and caregivers to engage in nurturing care for child development; and (vi) Supporting Nutrition Sector's effective functioning, including sub-national coordination, information management, and rapid assessments.

Social Protection and Cash Assistance



Target for July-December 2024: 63,000 vulnerable and displaced people will benefit from humanitarian cash transfers and referrals; 4,500 children and youth with disabilities in the South will receive cash assistance.

UNICEF's Social Protection response approach is based on: (i) Distributing a humanitarian gender-responsive and disability-inclusive cash transfer for affected families of all nationalities to ensure they can meet their immediate basic needs; and (ii) Linking families receiving cash assistance to life-saving and psychosocial support services delivered by UNICEF and partners.

Education



Target for July-December 2024: 30,000 displaced children will be provided with education services, including formal and non-formal education, learning materials, remote learning, and access to school exams; 10,000 teachers will be trained on disability and gender-responsive pedagogies with support from specialised therapy multi-disciplinary teams.

UNICEF's Education response approach is based on: (i) Providing remedial education, digital learning, catch-up classes and learning support to mitigate learning losses in schools, Makani community centres, and Palestinian camps; (ii) Distributing teaching and learning materials to support learning continuity in public schools; (iii) Providing after-school & in-school recreational activities to support children's wellbeing and mental, including for children with disabilities; (iv) Coordinating with the Ministry of Education & Higher Education on training teachers & education personnel, identifying schools' capacities and optimising enrolment; and (v) Supporting the effective functioning of the Education Sector.

Child Protection



Target for July-December 2024: 21,000 children and caregivers provided with a comprehensive child protection prevention and response package, including EORE, MPHSS, and specialised case management services; 3,000 women & girls accessing comprehensive prevention and response GBV services.

UNICEF's Child Protection response approach is based on: (i) Raising awareness on Explosive Ordnance Risk Education (EORE), child protection, and Gender-Based Violence (GBV) prevention and risk mitigation; (ii) Providing Mental Health and Psychosocial Support (MPHSS) for children and caregivers, including in Palestinian camps; (iii) Undertaking child safety assessments and GBV risk mitigation in displacement areas; (iv) Supporting GBV survivors and those at risk via GBV safe spaces; (v) Providing case management, family tracing and reunification for unaccompanied and separated children, including in Palestinian camps; and (vi) Leading the Child Protection Area of Responsibility.

Adolescents and Youth



Target for July-December 2024: 15,000 young people will be supported through learning, life-skills training, volunteering, and income generating opportunities, including the production of 3,000 winter kits for displaced populations.

UNICEF's Adolescents and Youth response approach is based on: (i) Providing access to adapted learning to earning programmes to build youth's capacities and increase employability, including youth with disabilities; (ii) Providing access to adapted life skills and engagement programmes, including sports for development to promote wellbeing; (iii) Increasing youth economic engagement in communities and providing shock-response support to entrepreneurs, Cash for Work projects and Youth-led initiatives; and (v) Activating youth and adolescent girls through volunteering platforms.

Risk Communication and Community Engagement (RCCE)



Target for July-December 2024: 200,000 people will be reached by integrated messaging on prevention, access to services and promotion of positive behaviours.

UNICEF's RCCE approach follows AAP standards for: (i) Conducting rapid community assessments to identify and address risky behaviours and information gaps; (ii) Establishing and coordinating partnerships to expand integrated RCCE; (iii) Disseminating inclusive and gender-responsive information on available services and referral pathways; and (v) Implementing social listening and community feedback initiatives.

UNICEF Emergency Preparedness

UNICEF continues enhancing its emergency preparedness for a potential larger number of affected people (up to one million). UNICEF has already procured emergency health, obstetric, surgical, baby, Laha/Dignity, and recreational kits, as well as fuel, and WASH, education, nutrition, and medical supplies amounting USD 3.7 million, out of which USD 2.1 million was dispatched to partners. The remaining items are being prepositioned at UNICEF warehouses in Tyre, Ghaziyeh-Saida, Zahle and Beirut to ensure a rapid distribution when needed.

A **Rapid Response Mechanism (RRM)** has been agreed between UNICEF, WFP and UNFPA to provide first line life-saving supplies in case of mass displacement in Lebanon. Partnering with local NGOs, the RRM will enable timely delivery to IDPs of ready-to-eat food, basic hygiene, and dignity items.

Humanitarian Coordination Strategy

UNICEF's humanitarian strategy is aligned with the Inter-Agency humanitarian analyses and Sector priorities in Lebanon. UNICEF co-leads the WASH, Education, Nutrition, and Child Protection (sub)Sectors, and participates in the Health, Basic Assistance, Livelihoods, and Protection Sectors, including the GBV Working Group. UNICEF-led Sectors integrated the South emergency plans in the Lebanon Response Plan (LRP), with an annex for the Humanitarian Country Team's Contingency Plan covering 200,000 people.

In collaboration with the Disaster Risk Management Unit and the Lebanese Red Cross, UNICEF is supporting emergency preparedness and response planning across all Governorates. The South Emergency Response is coordinated through the Inter-Sector Coordination Group (ISCG), and the Emergency Telecommunications and Logistics Clusters can be activated when required.

Funding Requirements

July - December 2024

UNICEF estimates that it needs USD 39.1 million to respond to needs of IDPs and host-communities (200,000 people) for six months while preparing for a scenario where the conflict escalates affecting up to one million people in Lebanon.

The funding requirements include around USD 9 million for procuring and prepositioning lifesaving and emergency supplies.

Programme	Funding Needs (USD)
WASH	13,305,310
Health	3,292,000
Nutrition & Child Development	1,360,000
Social Protection	5,824,000
Education	2,455,452
Child Protection	2,166,750
Youth & Adolescents	4,698,000
RCCE, PSEA, AAP, Comms	995,000
Field Operations and RRM	2,500,000
Palestinian Programme	2,480,000
Total (USD)	39,076,512

ⁱ IOM, Displacement Tracking Matrix, Round 39, July 2024