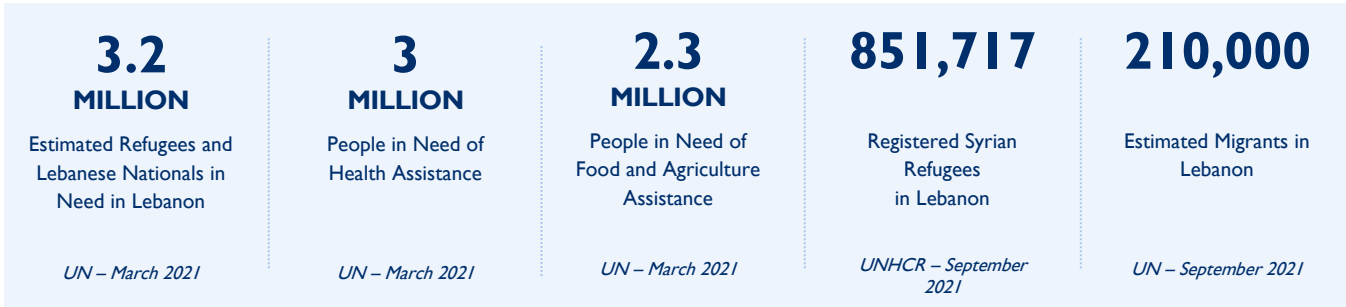


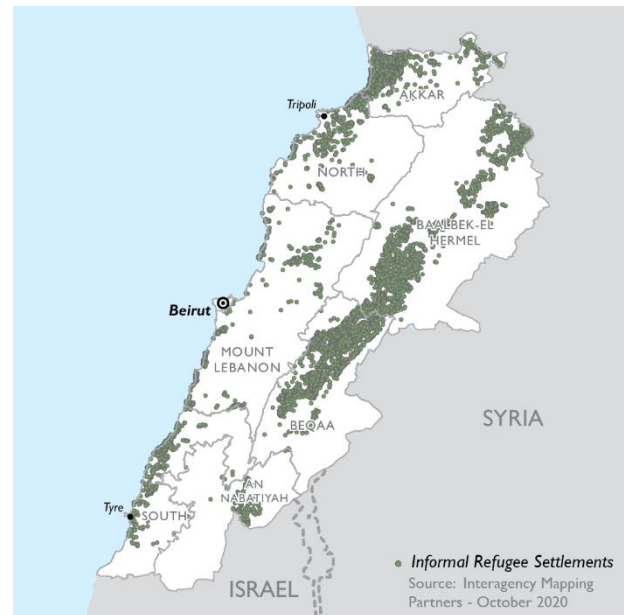
Lebanon – Complex Emergency

SEPTEMBER 30, 2021

SITUATION AT A GLANCE



- The UN releases the 2021 Lebanon ERP, requesting \$383 million to address the urgent humanitarian needs of 1.1 million vulnerable Lebanese nationals and migrants in the country.
- The CERF and LHF allocate a total of \$10 million to ensure the continuation of essential health care services and water systems affected by the ongoing fuel crisis.
- USAID/BHA partner WFP provides food assistance to 1.7 million people across Lebanon in September amid deteriorating economic and food security conditions.
- State/PRM partner UNICEF facilitates access to safe drinking water and sanitation services for more than 253,000 Syrian refugees and Lebanese host community members between April and July 2021.



TOTAL U.S. GOVERNMENT HUMANITARIAN FUNDING For the Lebanon Response in FY 2021	USAID/BHA ¹	\$111,193,000
	State/PRM ²	\$289,633,386
	Total	\$400,826,386

For complete funding breakdown with partners, see detailed chart on page 6

¹ USAID's Bureau for Humanitarian Assistance (USAID/BHA)
² U.S. Department of State's Bureau of Population, Refugees, and Migration (State/PRM)

KEY DEVELOPMENTS

UN Releases 2021 Lebanon ERP, Requesting \$383 Million to Support 1.1 Million Acutely Vulnerable Lebanese Nationals and Migrants

On August 5, the UN released the 2021 Emergency Response Plan (ERP) for Lebanon, which requests \$383 million to respond to the humanitarian needs of 1.1 million of the 1.9 million acutely vulnerable Lebanese nationals and migrants in need of humanitarian assistance countrywide. The ERP, which aims to address the needs of the most vulnerable among Lebanese and migrants, complements the 2017–2021 Lebanon Crisis Response Plan—updated in March—which addresses the impact of the Syria crisis in Lebanon and requests \$2.75 billion to support 3 million of the 3.2 million vulnerable Syrian and Palestinian refugees and Lebanese nationals in need of humanitarian assistance countrywide. The ERP’s three objectives comprise providing emergency humanitarian assistance to populations affected by the country’s ongoing economic crisis; bolstering the Lebanese health system’s capacity to respond to the coronavirus disease (COVID-19) outbreak; and enhancing equitable, timely, and unhindered access to protection assistance for the estimated 210,000 migrants in the country. In response to the ongoing energy and fuel crisis in Lebanon, the ERP also includes an emergency logistics operational plan to establish a fuel supply chain to ensure the continuity of humanitarian activities and provide fuel to critical health and water, sanitation, and hygiene (WASH) institutions across the country.

Humanitarian conditions in Lebanon have deteriorated significantly in recent years due to the compounding effects of the economic and financial crisis, the COVID-19 outbreak, and the August 2020 Beirut port explosions, the UN reports. As of September, approximately 82 percent of Lebanon’s population—nearly 4 million people—were facing poverty, while nearly 40 percent of the poor population—1.65 million people—were facing extreme poverty, according to the UN’s multidimensional poverty index. Meanwhile, the market value of the Lebanese pound depreciated by more than 90 percent between October 2019 and August 2021, leading to hyperinflation and increased costs of commodities and basic services. As a result, household purchasing power has declined, with many families unable to afford essential needs, including education, electricity, food, health, hygiene items, and water. The compounding crises have also affected household income levels, with 20 percent of Lebanese nationals reporting the loss of their main source of income and 50 percent of migrants reporting unemployment as of late 2020. Lebanon’s worsening crisis continues to exacerbate food insecurity for vulnerable Lebanese nationals and Syrian refugees and strain health systems already vulnerable due to the COVID-19 outbreak.

CERF, LHF Together Allocate \$10 Million to Ease Lebanon Fuel Crisis

On September 6, UN Humanitarian Coordinator for Lebanon Najat Rochdi announced a \$6 million allocation from the Lebanon Humanitarian Fund (LHF)—a country-based pooled fund led by the Humanitarian Coordinator for Lebanon and managed by the UN—to ensure the continuation of critical health care services affected by the ongoing energy and fuel crisis in the country. Relief actors report that fuel shortages have restricted state-provided electricity to a few hours per day, prompting health care providers to use private, fuel-powered generators that are increasingly costly and unreliable. As a result, health care providers have reduced operating hours and scaled back treatments, restricting access to health care services for an estimated 50 percent of Lebanon’s population. The new LHF allocation will allow relief actors to secure adequate fuel for health service providers—including approximately 550 pharmacies, 250 primary health care centers, and 65 hospitals—to operate uninterrupted for three months. The funding will also support a central warehouse and district-level distribution sites to maintain cold chain and safe storage of essential health commodities, such as

vaccines and other temperature-sensitive medicines.

The LHF allocation complements an August 31 UN allocation of \$4 million from the Central Emergency Response Fund (CERF)—a pooled humanitarian fund established and managed by the UN to support sudden-onset and underfunded emergencies—to secure fuel for water treatment, pumping, and distribution across Lebanon. The funding will support water services for 2.3 million people, including via fuel provision to four water supply areas in Lebanon’s capital, Beirut, as well as Beqaa, Mt. Lebanon, North, and South governorates, serving more than two-thirds of the country’s population.

Syrian Refugees in Lebanon Struggle to Meet Needs Amid Economic Crisis

Deteriorating economic conditions in Lebanon continue to exacerbate humanitarian needs across the country, with Syrian refugees among the most affected, according to the preliminary findings of a September UN Vulnerability Assessment of Syrian Refugees in Lebanon. The assessment indicates that nine out of 10 Syrian refugees are living in extreme poverty amid the ongoing financial crisis. Food prices in Lebanon increased by more than 400 percent between October 2019 and June 2021, with approximately 50 percent of Syrian refugee households experiencing acute food insecurity as of June 2021, the UN reports. As a result, many Syrian refugee households are resorting to negative coping strategies—including accumulating debt, taking children out of school, or reducing health expenses—to meet their basic needs. In addition, more refugee household members reported taking extra shifts, high-risk jobs, or poorly paid jobs in 2021 to maintain the same income they made in 2020. Deteriorating socioeconomic conditions have also significantly affected refugees’ access to education, livelihoods, and shelter, and nearly 60 percent of Syrian refugee households were living in dangerous, overcrowded, or substandard shelters as of September. Meanwhile, only 30 percent of Syrian refugee children ages 6–17 years have attended school, while an estimated 30,000 Syrian refugee children are reportedly engaged in child labor.

In response to deteriorating food security conditions across Lebanon, USAID/BHA continues to support the UN World Food Program (WFP) to reach Syrian refugees and other vulnerable populations with critical food assistance in the country. With USAID/BHA and other donor support, WFP provided in-kind food or cash-based transfers for food to help 1.7 million individuals—including nearly 1.2 million Syrian refugees, 500,000 Lebanese nationals, and 22,000 refugees of other nationalities—meet their basic needs in September.

Security Incidents Affect UNWRA Camps

Multiple security incidents in September affected two UN Relief and Works Agency for Palestine Refugees in the Near East (UNRWA) camps in Lebanon, the UN reports. On September 19, residents of temporary housing units near North Governorate’s Nahr el-Bared Palestinian refugee camp forcibly entered an UNWRA office, severely damaging the building and seven UN-owned vehicles parked at the site. The incident followed a series of thefts of UNRWA-owned goods from the camp in the preceding days. In a separate incident on September 19, a dispute between rival armed groups broke out in South Governorate’s Ein El Hilweh camp. During the incident, the armed groups reportedly entered four UNRWA schools, damaging property and injuring several civilians. UNRWA Commissioner-General Philippe Lazzarini issued a statement on September 20 condemning the incidents and calling on all parties to respect the neutrality and inviolability of UNRWA to ensure that the agency is able to continue providing critical humanitarian assistance supporting the approximately 185,000 Palestinian refugees in Lebanon.

KEY FIGURES



**\$105.5
million**

In dedicated
USAID/BHA emergency
food assistance in FY
2021



14,000

People reached with
USG-supported hospital
care referrals since
January

U.S. GOVERNMENT RESPONSE

FOOD SECURITY

Since FY 2012, USAID/BHA has provided food assistance to respond to the needs of Syrian refugees and other populations affected by the refugee crisis in Lebanon; USAID/BHA also provides food assistance to Lebanese nationals affected by the country's ongoing economic crisis. Overall, USAID/BHA provided more than \$105.5 million in emergency food assistance in Lebanon in FY 2021.

HEALTH

State/PRM supports the Office of the UN High Commissioner for Refugees (UNHCR) to subsidize primary and secondary health care services—including child, maternal, mental health, and sexual and reproductive health care, as well as medications and vaccinations—for Syrian refugees, refugees of other nationalities, and vulnerable Lebanese individuals. UNHCR also facilitates refugee access to emergency services, supporting at least 14,000 hospital care referrals since January. Moreover, the UN agency is helping refugees enroll in Lebanon's national COVID-19 vaccination plan by supporting nearly 400 health workers and outreach volunteers and providing approximately 3,370 vaccinations to refugees through its mobile vaccination campaign between July and August 2021. UNHCR also reached nearly 22,000 individuals with COVID-19 awareness and prevention messaging through community health volunteers, as well as supported COVID-19 virtual awareness sessions and social media campaigns in August. In addition, UNHCR covers 100 percent of the cost of COVID-19 tests and treatment for refugee patients. Since March 2020, UNHCR has covered the cost of more than 3,600 COVID-19 tests and admissions for approximately 1,460 refugees under its referral care program. Meanwhile, State/PRM non-governmental organization (NGO) partner Restart and other NGO partners provide psychosocial support (PSS) services for refugees and host communities. State/PRM partner the UN Children's Fund (UNICEF) also distributes micronutrients to children younger than five years of age, as well as emergency food rations, micronutrient sachets, therapeutic milk, and Vitamin A, to primary health clinics and other partners in Lebanon.

To mitigate the spread and impact of COVID-19 and reduce health needs among vulnerable Lebanese nationals, USAID/BHA supports the American University of Beirut (AUB) to reduce transmission in health care centers, including through the training of health care staff and distribution of personal protective equipment (PPE). From February to April, AUB provided 10 partner hospitals in Beqaa and North governorates with nearly 16,000 PPE items each to support medical staff. Between June 2020 and March 2021, AUB's partner hospitals treated more than 5,400 people with COVID-19. From July to September, AUB reported that COVID-19 training programs had a significant impact on the improvement of the partner

hospitals' preparedness and vaccination campaigns. The delivery of PPE and medical equipment to the partner hospitals remains ongoing.



250,000

People reached by USG-supported WASH assistance per month

WASH

The U.S. Government (USG) supports WASH programming throughout Lebanon to bolster water and sanitation conditions and prevent the spread of COVID-19. USAID/BHA partner World Vision is rehabilitating handwashing stations and sanitation facilities in public spaces, as well as providing WASH kits—including detergent, face masks, hand sanitizer, and soap—to households acutely vulnerable to COVID-19, in Beirut, Beqaa, and Mount Lebanon governorates. With State/PRM support, UNICEF continues to facilitate access to safe drinking water and sanitation services for more than 250,000 Syrian refugees residing in informal settlements across Lebanon, helping mitigate public health hazards and social tensions related to limited water resources. In response to critical fuel and water shortages across Lebanon, UNICEF has also secured access to safe drinking water for more than 2.3 million people through emergency fuel procurement and the deployment of rapid response teams with emergency CERF funds.



171,000

Individuals reached with USG-supported protection-related cash assistance in 2021

PROTECTION

State/PRM supports five NGOs to provide child protection, gender-based violence (GBV) prevention, and mental health and PSS services to vulnerable populations across Lebanon. State/PRM also supports UNICEF to provide child protection services, reaching 70,000 children through an emergency cash grant program between April and July. UNICEF also distributes protection-related cash assistance to vulnerable Syrian refugee households, benefitting approximately 7,500 children from April to July. Additionally, State/PRM partner UNHCR distributed cash assistance to more than 171,000 vulnerable Syrian refugee households from January to September.



2,000

Explosion-affected houses repaired by USG-supported shelter and settlement activities

SHELTER

In response to the August 2020 explosions, USAID/BHA supported NGO Caritas to provide basic household items, such as mattresses and stoves, for people whose residences were destroyed during the incident. In addition, with USAID/BHA funding, NGO Lutheran World Relief repaired nearly 2,000 houses damaged by the explosions in Beirut, helping approximately 8,200 people return to their homes. With State/PRM support, UNHCR continues to respond to refugees' acute shelter needs in collective shelters, informal settlements, and substandard shelter units. UNHCR operates within poor urban neighborhoods and rural areas and provides targeted assistance through an integrated shelter and WASH response, including cash for rent assistance, shelter rehabilitation, site improvement, and winterization assistance.



150,000

Children targeted to receive USG-supported education materials in Lebanon

EDUCATION

State/PRM partner UNICEF provides teaching resources to support education activities conducted online due to the COVID-19 pandemic, aiming to reach at least 150,000 students. In addition, with State/PRM support, UNHCR continues to administer a certified basic literacy and numeracy test for children ages 10–14 years who are out of school, supporting their entry to the formal public education system. UNHCR has also enrolled nearly 200 vulnerable youth from refugee and host communities in vocational training. Moreover, State/PRM NGO partner the International Rescue Committee recently assisted the Government of Lebanon (GoL) Ministry of Education and Higher Education to create a digitized version of the Lebanese curriculum in Arabic, English, and French, and provides education support to refugees in Beqaa and North governorates. Additionally, with State/PRM support, NGO Relief International’s Cash for Education program reaches more than 760 households in Beqaa per month, providing monthly stipends to Syrian refugee households as an incentive to keep children in school.

CONTEXT IN BRIEF

- Lebanon hosts the largest number of refugees per capita of any country, with the influx of approximately 1.5 million refugees straining local resources and generating significant humanitarian needs. Additionally, Lebanon has experienced several large socioeconomic shocks due to overlapping crises since 2019, including ongoing political instability, the steep deterioration of the economy, and the emergence of COVID-19, which have worsened economic and financial conditions and resulted in ongoing instability across the country.
- On August 4, 2020, concurrent explosions occurred at a warehouse near the Port of Beirut, resulting in at least 180 deaths and injuring an estimated 6,500 people, according to the GoL. Relief actors report that the explosions damaged approximately 48,000 buildings, affected 171,600 people, and displaced many vulnerable Lebanese, Palestinian, and Syrian households, whose coping mechanisms had already been strained by the ongoing socioeconomic crisis in Lebanon. In response, USAID deployed a Disaster Assistance Response Team (DART) to Beirut and activated a Washington, D.C.-based Response Management Team (RMT) to coordinate response efforts on August 7, 2020. The DART and RMT were demobilized on August 21, 2020, as response efforts shifted to reconstruction.
- On February 17, 2021, U.S. Ambassador to Lebanon Dorothy C. Shea redeclared a disaster for COVID-19 in Lebanon for FY 2021 due to the ongoing humanitarian effects of the pandemic on vulnerable Lebanese nationals.

USG HUMANITARIAN FUNDING FOR THE LEBANON RESPONSE IN FY 2021¹

IMPLEMENTING PARTNER	ACTIVITY	LOCATION	AMOUNT
USAID/BHA			

Acción contra el Hambre/Spain	Health, WASH	Baalbek-El Hermel, Beqaa, South	\$800,000
International Medical Corps	Health	Baalbek-El Hermel, Beqaa, Mount Lebanon, An Nabatiyah, North, South	\$2,100,000
Mercy Corps	Humanitarian Coordination, Information Management, and Assessments	Countrywide	\$451,000
WFP	Food Assistance—Cash Transfers; Local, Regional, and International Procurement; Vouchers	Countrywide	\$105,500,000
World Vision	WASH	Beqaa, Mount Lebanon	\$1,000,000
	Program Support		\$1,342,000
TOTAL USAID/BHA FUNDING			\$111,193,000
STATE/PRM			
Implementing Partners	Cash-Based Programming, Education, GBV Prevention, Health, Livelihoods, Mental Health, Protection, Relief Commodities, Shelter and Settlements, WASH	Countrywide	\$39,613,228
IOM	Health	Countrywide	\$1,090,000
Julia V. Taft Fund Awardee	Health, Child Protection	Countrywide	\$29,404
UNHCR	Cash-Based Programming, Education, Health, Livelihoods, Mental Health, Protection, Relief Commodities, Shelter and Settlements, WASH	Countrywide	\$123,766,400
UNICEF	Cash-Based Programming, Child Protection, Education, GBV Prevention, Health, Nutrition, WASH, Youth Programs	Countrywide	\$105,400,000
UNRWA	Cash-Based Programming, Child Protection, Education, GBV Prevention, Health, Nutrition, WASH, Youth Programs	Countrywide	\$19,734,354
TOTAL STATE/PRM FUNDING			\$289,633,386
TOTAL USG HUMANITARIAN FUNDING FOR THE LEBANON RESPONSE IN FY 2021			\$400,826,386

¹ Year of funding indicates the date of commitment or obligation, not appropriation, of funds. Funding figures reflect publicly announced funding as of September 30, 2021.

² Funding includes USG assistance to respond to the August 2020 explosions and the refugee crisis in Lebanon. State/PRM and USAID/BHA funding benefitting refugees in Lebanon is also reported in the USG Syria Complex Emergency Fact Sheet and the USG Iraq Complex Emergency Fact Sheet.

PUBLIC DONATION INFORMATION

- The most effective way people can assist relief efforts is by making cash contributions to humanitarian organizations that are conducting relief operations. A list of humanitarian organizations that are accepting cash donations for disaster responses around the world can be found at [interaction.org](https://www.interaction.org).
- USAID encourages cash donations because they allow aid professionals to procure the exact items needed (often in the affected region); reduce the burden on scarce resources (such as transportation routes, staff time, and warehouse space); can be transferred very quickly and without transportation costs; support the economy of the disaster-stricken region; and ensure culturally, dietarily, and environmentally appropriate assistance.
- More information can be found at:
 - USAID Center for International Disaster Information: [cidi.org](https://www.cidi.org)
 - Information on relief activities of the humanitarian community can be found at [reliefweb.int](https://www.reliefweb.int).

USAID/BHA bulletins appear on the USAID website at [usaid.gov/humanitarian-assistance/where-we-work](https://www.usaid.gov/humanitarian-assistance/where-we-work)