

Beirut Blast

Situation Report

August 11, 2020



BACKGROUND: On Tuesday, August 4, 2020 a catastrophic explosion rocked Beirut, destroying most of the port and damaging buildings across the city. More than 150 people lost their lives in the blast, 6,000 sustained injuries, and hundreds of people are still missing. There are also more than 300,000 Internally Displaced Persons (IDPs).

80% of what [Lebanon](#) consumes comes in through imports and 60% of those came through the Port of Beirut, which is no longer operating. Resources will therefore become scarcer. They will also be more expensive, given short supplies and the 89% depreciation of the Lebanese pound since October 2019.

On August 10, the government of Lebanon resigned in response to mounting anger and the resulting protests.

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Anera's Immediate Response

Anera's Lebanon team conducted an impact assessment to identify and target the most urgent needs facing the victims of the explosion. Based on the data gathered, Anera has prioritized shelter, food, and health as the key areas of focus in our response. We will work in areas of Beirut that were already economically vulnerable, and then suffered the most from the blast, such as Karantina, En Nahr, Bourj Hammoud, Zuqaq al-Blat, Basta Al Tahta, Beydon, and disadvantaged parts of Achrafieh and Ras Al Nabaa.

SHELTER REHABILITATION: We will focus our rehabilitation efforts on mild-to-moderately damaged homes (broken windows, doors, roofs, etc.). This will allow the most vulnerable displaced persons to return home as quickly as possible. Top priority will be given to women-headed families with young children.

MEDICAL DONATIONS: Our [medical donations](#) team is working with Americares, DirectRelief, HPIC, Heart-to-Heart and International Health Partners on six shipments of medical supplies to be air freighted from the US and UK to Lebanon. Shipments include emergency supplies, chronically needed medicines and Personal Protection Equipment (PPE) against [COVID-19](#), as cases rise.

Anera is also creating a master list of urgently needed medicines, health care supplies (such as PPE), and medical equipment to coordinate response among humanitarian actors in order to deliver items where they are most needed.

DISTRIBUTING RELIEF ITEMS: Our staff are organizing clean-up efforts as well as distributions of water, food, cleaning supplies, hand sanitizer, masks and gloves to families and others who are picking up the pieces after the tragic explosion.