

# Beirut Blast

## Situation Report

August 25, 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 200 people lost their lives in the blast, 6,000 sustained injuries, and many are still missing. Hundreds of thousands of residents have sustained damage to their homes, of those some are temporarily living with friends and family, while others are staying in their homes, despite broken windows and other damage.

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 and more expensive, given short supplies and the 89% depreciation of the Lebanese pound since October 2019.

[anera.org/donate-lebanon](https://anera.org/donate-lebanon)

### Anera's Response

Anera has prioritized shelter, food, and health as the key areas of our humanitarian response in the wake of the disaster. We will work in areas of Beirut that were already economically vulnerable, and then suffered the most from the blast: Karantina, Borj Hammoud, the Zoqaq El Blat and Basta Tahta areas of the Bachoura neighborhood, the Beydoun area of Achrafiye, and Gemmayze and Mar Mikhael.

**SHELTER REHABILITATION:** Anera assessment teams with backgrounds in construction, social work and engineering have begun visiting Beirut neighborhoods affected by the blast. We have conducted **466 assessments for rehabilitation work** to date. Our teams will repair broken windows and damaged doors and roofs, etc. This will allow the most vulnerable displaced persons to return home as quickly as possible. As rehabilitation work begins, we will continue identifying additional homes. Top priority will be given to women-headed families with young children. **We have completed rehabilitation of 12 homes.**

**MEDICAL DONATIONS:** Our [medical donations](#) team is working with Americares, Direct Relief, IHP and others on **12+ shipments** of medical aid to be sent by air and sea from the US and UK to Lebanon. Shipments include emergency supplies, chronically needed medicines and Personal Protection Equipment (PPE).

**We just received and are delivering a 56-ton shipment of donated supplies from Direct Relief.** We are now receiving another from IHP.

**DISTRIBUTING RELIEF ITEMS:** Our staff are organizing thousands of volunteers to clean streets and distribute food, PPE and cleaning

supplies to families and others who are picking up the pieces after the tragic explosion.