



Lebanon Situation Report

April 24, 2024

Background

Information about the current period of cross-border fighting is summarized in Anera's last [Situation Report \(March 2024\)](#).

Overview

The escalation of hostilities in recent weeks has led to a surge in civilian casualties in Lebanon, as clashes, once limited to the border, now extend to greater distances in both Lebanon and Israel. Israeli airstrikes targeted the northeastern Lebanese city of Baalbek on February 26th, approximately 75 km from the border, constituting Lebanon's deepest attack since the 2006 war.¹ On March 20, the UN Human Rights Office reported that of the 66 civilians reportedly killed in Lebanon over the past six months, nearly 20% were killed in just the past 36 hours.²

Many health personnel have recently left Lebanon, creating a significant gap in medical support, particularly for the population in the south and all those affected by the conflict. Marjayoun Hospital, with only 14 emergency beds, faces operational challenges due to staff shortages and critical fuel shortages. The hospital relies on its generators for electricity, running them for 20 hours daily at a cost of up to \$20,000 per month.³ The conflict along Lebanon's southern borders has deepened the various crises impacting the education of the most marginalized children and youth in the country.

The escalating security situation has intensified anxiety among affected communities, driven by fears of violence, family separation, and uncertainties regarding access to critical services like education and livelihood opportunities. Heightened levels of stress within families, combined with feelings of uncertainty, have led to a reported increase in severe disciplinary measures and violence against children, as well as conflicts between intimate partners and spouses.⁴

¹ [Lebanon: Flash Update #13 - Escalation of hostilities in south Lebanon, March 2024 | OCHA](#).

² [Today's top news: Occupied Palestinian Territory, Lebanon, Haiti, Ukraine, Malawi, March 2024 | OCHA](#)

³ [Red Cross 'concerned' for south Lebanon's hospitals in case of escalation, March 2024 | Reuters](#)

⁴ [Lebanon: Flash Update #14 - Escalation of hostilities in south Lebanon, March 2024 | OCHA](#)

On February 27, the UN Interim Force in Lebanon (UNIFIL) Head of Mission expressed concern over the worrying escalation in exchanges of fire across Lebanon's Blue Line, exacerbating an already devastating conflict that has resulted in numerous casualties, extensive damage to homes and public infrastructure, and jeopardized livelihoods of tens of thousands of civilians, as the situation now sees an expansion and intensification of strikes.⁵ On March 28, UNIFIL again expressed its deep concern over the surge of violence along the Blue Line and emphasized the urgent need for this escalation to cease immediately.⁶

Violence at the Lebanon-Israel border

As of April 24, the Israeli attacks along Lebanon's Southern borders killed 340 citizens and injured 984.⁷ As of March 19th, there have been at least 54 confirmed civilian deaths, with nearly half of them being women.⁸

On March 9th, UNIFIL reported that a joint vehicle patrol with the Lebanese Armed Forces faced small arms fire from the vicinity of Aita al-Shaab in South Lebanon, south of the Blue Line.⁹

On March 27th, Lebanon witnessed its deadliest day since the outbreak of hostilities, resulting in 16 fatalities. Israel's initial strike hit a medical facility, resulting in the deaths of seven medics. Subsequent Israeli strikes reportedly claimed the lives of nine additional individuals. Following consecutive days of attacks, Hezbollah launched 30 rockets into northern Israel, resulting in one civilian death. The next day, March 28th, Hezbollah responded to Israeli strikes using heavier bombs for the first time. Tensions continued to escalate on March 30th when three U.N. observers and a translator were wounded in a blast in southern Lebanon.¹⁰

Displacement

As of April 18, hostilities along Lebanon's southern border with Israel have displaced 92,621 individuals, comprising 32% children, 35% women, and 33% men. Approximately 83% of the 92,621 registered Internally displaced persons currently reside with host families, 13% rent houses, and an additional 2% relocate to secondary residences. Another 2% are accommodated in 18 collective shelters. Within the host settings, 22,353 individuals reside with host families, while 55,241 live separately. With 19% of the 77,594 individuals in host settings enduring overcrowded conditions. The

⁵ [Statement From UNIFIL Head Of Mission And Force Commander On The Situation In South Lebanon, February 2024 | UNIFIL](#)

⁶ [UNIFIL Statement: Call For Ceasefire Amid Escalating Blue Line Violence, March 2024 | UNIFIL](#)

⁷ [Cumulative report of health emergencies, April 2024 | MoPH](#)

⁸ [Lebanon: Flash Update #14 - Escalation of hostilities in South Lebanon, March 2024 | OCHA](#)

⁹ [Lebanon: Flash Update #14 - Escalation of hostilities in South Lebanon, March 2024 | OCHA](#)

¹⁰ [As Hezbollah-Israel Tensions Simmer, Lebanon's Domestic Crises Drag On, April 2024 | USIP](#)

1,565 displaced individuals who are being hosted in 18 collective shelters are distributed across Tyre (5), Hasbaya (7), Nabatieh (4), Saida (1), and Bekaa (1).¹¹

Lebanon's National Disaster Risk Management and Disaster Risk Reduction Units in Tyre, Zahrani, Nabatieh, and South have identified the need for 35,000 pillows, 1,000 blankets, 5,500 kitchen sets, 20,000 mats, and 5,500 solar lamps. Additional requirements necessary to address the challenges faced by conflict-affected communities include psychosocial support sessions, assistance for vulnerable groups, distribution of hygiene kits, protection monitoring, livelihood support, risk mitigation for unexploded ordnances, and educational activities for children. Other identified needs include alternative accommodation for Syrian households, addressing the challenges faced by displaced Syrian families in accessing collective shelters in the South, and identifying additional sites that could serve as collective shelters across the country in case the situation escalates.¹²

Food Security and Livelihoods

Based on the IPC Acute Food Insecurity Analysis, from October 2023 to March 2024, approximately 1 million individuals in Lebanon, including Syrian and Palestinian refugees, are categorized as IPC Phase 3 (Crisis) or above, constituting 19% of the analyzed population. It is anticipated that between April and September 2024, around 1.14 million people will experience heightened food insecurity, likely falling into IPC Phase 3 or above, representing 21% of the analyzed population.¹³

According to satellite imagery, the cumulative land area impacted by fires resulting from shelling in southern Lebanon amounted to 1,897 hectares (4,687 acres). The Food and Agriculture Organization reported that 63% of farmers encountered obstacles in safely accessing their fields, with 26% compelled to abandon their agricultural lands entirely due to displacement as a result of recent escalations. Additionally, 23% of farmers witnessed a reduction in their harvest yields, while 85% encountered challenges in transporting their agricultural produce. Overall, 72% of farming households suffered income losses.¹⁴ As of March 7th, the Israeli shelling in South Lebanon destroyed 300,00 farm animals.¹⁵ On March 7th, farmers from Wazzani Plain were forced to flee due to Israeli machine gun fire directed at their fields.¹⁶

¹¹ [Lebanon: Flash Update #16 - Escalation of hostilities in South Lebanon, April 2024 | OCHA](#)

¹² [Lebanon: Flash Update #14 - Escalation of hostilities in South Lebanon, March 2024 | OCHA](#)

¹³ [Global Information and Early Warning System on Food and Agriculture, March 2024 | FAO](#)

¹⁴ [Lebanon: Flash Update #13 - Escalation of hostilities in South Lebanon, March 2024 | OCHA](#)

¹⁵ [Lebanon: At a Glance - Escalation of hostilities in South Lebanon, March 2024 | OCHA](#)

¹⁶ [Lebanon: Flash Update #14 - Escalation of hostilities in South Lebanon, March 2024 | OCHA](#)

There remains a need to continue providing consistent and vital food and economic assistance to displaced populations affected by ongoing clashes, individuals residing in unsafe areas, and those whose livelihoods in agriculture have been affected. This need extends to the continuous delivery of essential nutrition services and supplies to address the urgent nutritional and child developmental needs of the most vulnerable populations, particularly children and women. Additionally, providing cash assistance to caregivers who are having difficulty accessing breast milk substitutes and deemed eligible for support is crucial.¹⁷

Socioeconomic Status, Health & Education

Districts such as Marjaayoun, Bent Jbeil, Tyre, and Hasbaya are experiencing severe shortages in essential services, including healthcare, electricity, education, and fuel availability. Moreover, communities in remote areas, heavily dependent on agriculture, face heightened socio-economic vulnerabilities exacerbated by the ongoing conflict, leading to an increased demand for humanitarian aid.¹⁸

On February 23rd, the South Lebanon Water Establishment announced that Israeli airstrikes in Mansouri (Tyre) had damaged solar energy systems utilized to power wells, leading to the disruption of the water supply to the town. Thus far, at least nine water infrastructures have been affected due to cross-border hostilities, affecting the water supply for over 100,000 residents in the South and Nabatieh governorates.¹⁹

As of March 7th, 72 schools (50 public schools and 22 private schools) were partially or fully closed, in addition to eight technical education institutions. Roughly 20,000 students have experienced disruptions to their education, while more than 33,000 children are displaced in Lebanon. Before this recent escalation in violence, approximately 27% of children in Lebanon were already out of school.²⁰ According to OCHA, the identified education needs in Lebanon include ensuring access to online education, distributing learning materials and internet bundles, providing financial aid, engaging parents, offering retention support, implementing remote learning methodologies, and enhancing teachers' digital teaching proficiency.²¹

On March 27th, the Ministry of Public Health (MoPH) strongly condemned the airstrike on the Lebanese Ambulance Association Center - Habbariyeh Emergency Service, in which seven paramedics were killed, denouncing Israel's persistent targeting of

¹⁷ [Lebanon: Flash Update #14 - Escalation of hostilities in South Lebanon, March 2024 | OCHA](#)

¹⁸ [Lebanon: Flash Update #13 - Escalation of hostilities in South Lebanon, March 2024 | OCHA](#)

¹⁹ [Lebanon: Flash Update #13 - Escalation of hostilities in South Lebanon, March 2024 | OCHA](#)

²⁰ [Education Cannot Wait Announces New US\\$2.2 Million Grant to Improve Access to Inclusive, Quality Education, March 2024 | ECW](#)

²¹ [Lebanon: Flash Update #14 - Escalation of hostilities in South Lebanon, March 2024 | OCHA](#)

paramedics.²² On March 4th, the MoPH strongly condemned the airstrike on the Islamic Health Authority Center - Civil Defense in Al-Adissa city, in which three paramedics were killed and two wounded. The MoPH reported that casualties within two prominent health centers now stand at seven dead and ten wounded, with 17 ambulance cars destroyed or damaged.²³ On February 23rd, a direct attack on the Islamic Health Authority Center in the town of Bleida destroyed the center, along with the destruction of a large number of ambulances belonging to the center,²⁴ killing four civil defense members.²⁵

On March 6th, the International Committee of the Red Cross expressed concerns that any escalation of fighting along Lebanon's southern border would exacerbate the strain on hospitals, which are already grappling with a lack of funding amid an ongoing national financial crisis.²⁶

On March 28th, the United Nations Humanitarian Coordinator for Lebanon expressed deep concern over the repeated attacks on health facilities and health workers who endanger their lives to provide urgent assistance to their local communities.²⁷ The World Health Organization in Lebanon has condemned the repeated targeting of health workers, stating that 17 of them have been killed since October 7th.²⁸

Approximately 60,000 civilians continue to reside in conflict-affected areas and are in urgent need of health interventions, particularly for chronic disease medications, as well as the distribution of multi-purpose cash assistance and educational support.²⁹

Anera's Response

Food Parcels (Ramadan)

During Ramadan, Anera supported 2,125 households, or 6,375 individuals, in Lebanon. Beneficiaries were largely Palestinian families but also include vulnerable Lebanese families and internally displaced families. Through food parcels and cash assistance of \$50, this support ensured that families have nutritious iftar meals on their tables. In addition to core dry food items from parcels, families will be able to buy fresh produce

²² [MoPH denounces the Al-Habbaryya raid, March 2024 | MoPH](#)

²³ [MoPH denounces the Al-Adisa raid, March 2024 | MoPH](#)

²⁴ [The Ministry of Health condemns the attack on the health authority center in Blida, February 2024 | MoPH](#)

²⁵ [4 people were killed in an Israeli raid on a health center in southern Lebanon, February 2024 | RT](#)

²⁶ [Red Cross 'concerned' for south Lebanon's hospitals in case of escalation, March 2024 | Reuters](#)

²⁷ [UN Concerned over 'Unacceptable' Israeli Attacks on Lebanon's Health Facilities, March 2024 | Asharq AlAwsat](#)

²⁸ [Today's top news: Occupied Palestinian Territory, Lebanon, Haiti, Ukraine, Malawi, March 2024 | OCHA](#)

²⁹ [Lebanon: Flash Update #13 - Escalation of hostilities in South Lebanon, March 2024 | OCHA](#).

such as meat, chicken, cheese, bread, water, and cooking gas with their vouchers. This year, Anera's support is focused on South Lebanon and families with members who live with disabilities.

Youth-Led Initiatives

In collaboration with UNICEF, Anera launched the Crisis-Contextualized, Multi-Dimensional Employability Support Program for Youth in Lebanon III project in July 2023. The two-year program involves supporting 800 youth with education enrollment, providing functional skills training to 400 youth, delivering certified courses to 3,210 young people, engaging 2,448 youth in income generation activities, offering advanced training to 344 youth, providing seed funding to 90 youth, and offering 3,000 adolescent and youth capacity-building focusing on life skills. These initiatives collectively contribute to fostering positive economic outcomes and improved livelihoods of vulnerable youth across the community.

Anera, in partnership with UNICEF, is empowering Lebanese and non-Lebanese youth graduates through technical training to produce winter kits for vulnerable families in Lebanon. These kits, tailored for different age groups, include essential items like clothing and accessories to withstand the cold. The project is equipping twenty skilled youths with specialized training to manufacture 2,325 kits. By engaging in production and distribution, youths will enhance their employability and contribute to their long-term professional development. The produced kits are benefitting over 4,000 families affected by crises and emergencies in Lebanon.

Health and Medications

Though hospitals and healthcare facilities in southern Lebanon are facing a multitude of challenges, Anera, in partnership with Direct Relief, has provided critical support to frontline responders and healthcare providers, enabling them to better cope with these difficulties. Support includes emergency backpacks (containing essential medications and tools necessary to provide immediate assistance), acute medication, chronic medications, and medical supplies. Additionally, in collaboration with Foundation S, the Sanofi Collective, a significant medical donation of over 100,000 units of anticoagulant medication has been secured, enabling healthcare workers to mitigate the grave risk of thrombotic events.