

Lebanon Situation Report

December 12, 2024

Background

Anera's last <u>Situation Report (November 2024)</u> summarizes information about the current period of the war.

Overview

The World Bank recently estimated that the war in Lebanon inflicted at least **US\$3.4 billion in physical damage and \$5.1 billion in economic losses**. The war has also reduced Lebanon's real GDP growth for 2024 by at least 6.6%. The commerce sector incurred \$178 million in damage and \$1.7 billion in losses. About 11% of businesses in conflict-affected areas have been damaged. The severity of the damage in affected areas is expected to delay the return of displaced people, hindering the recovery and reconstruction of businesses. Damage to Lebanon's tourism and hospitality sector is estimated at \$18 million, with losses totaling \$1.1 billion. Losses include \$183 million in lost wages and other economic activities such as rent payments, consumables, and profits. The decline is primarily due to a sharp drop in tourist arrivals and hotel occupancy, with 75% fewer arrivals and hotel occupancy rates dropping below 10% in the summer of 2024.¹

Israeli attacks have directly or indirectly affected 70% of Lebanon's agricultural sector, causing damage to thousands of hectares, either partially or completely, and resulting in the destruction of 65,000 olive trees due to shelling with white phosphorus.² As of October 2024, the energy sector in Lebanon incurred losses exceeding \$320 million. The Telecommunications Ministry reported losses of around \$67 million.³

Violence in Lebanon

As of November 22, the total number of attacks since the beginning of the war reached 13,976.⁴ A ceasefire agreement between Lebanon and Israel took effect on November 27, 2024. Before the ceasefire, intense airstrikes targeted various locations across Lebanon,

¹ LEBANON Interim Damage and Loss Assessment (DaLA) ASSESSMENT REPORT NOVEMBER 2024 I World Bank

² Daily Situation Report #48, November 2024 | DRM

³ Lebanon: Flash Update #46 - Escalation of hostilities in Lebanon, as of 21 November 2024, OCHA

⁴ Daily Situation Report #49, November 2024 I DRM

including border crossing points and densely populated areas in Beirut. The agreement has triggered a mass return of people to areas where war-related infrastructure damage occurred, which may be contaminated with unexploded ordnance. **The war marked the deadliest period Lebanon has faced in decades, with an average of more than three children killed every day over the past two months.**⁵ Since the ceasefire went into effect, reports claim Israel has violated the agreement approximately 100 times.⁶

Israeli attacks killed 4,047 people and injured 16,638 as of December 4, 2024. Before mid-September when the pager attacks marked the start of an escalation into war, Israel had killed 645 people and injured 1,983. Among the victims, 316 children were killed, and 1,456 were injured, while 790 women were killed and 2,567 injured.⁷

Shelter & Displacement

As of December 4, 2024, Lebanon reported **201,820 internally displaced persons** (IDPs), reflecting a 78% decrease since November 24. These IDPs are distributed across 573 cadasters in 25 districts within all eight governorates. Notably, 71% of **IDPs are concentrated in five districts: Aley, Saida, Beirut, Chouf, and El Meten**. Most IDPs (90%) originate from five districts: Bent Jbeil (25%), Sour (25%), El Nabatieh (16%), Baabda (13%), and Marjaayoun (10%), with the remaining 10% coming from ten other districts. Additionally, **786,443 returnees have been recorded as of December 4**. The majority reside in El Nabatieh governorate, particularly in El Nabatieh district, which hosts 296,591 individuals (38%). The South governorate follows, with 142,565 returnees (18%) in Saida district, and Baalbek district in Baalbek-El Hermel governorate hosts 134,755 returnees (17%). Most returnees (88%) come from five districts: Beirut (50%), Zahle (22%), Chouf (13%), Baalbek (8%), and Saida (5%), while the remaining 12% are spread across 15 other districts.⁸⁹

By November 27, UNRWA shelters were housing a total of 990 households, including 3,316 registered IDPs. On November 22, the Israeli military issued orders for the displacement of 2,332 families residing in Burj Chemali Camp and the Maashouk Palestinian gathering in the Tyre area.¹⁰ On November 11, a displacement order was issued for the Rashidieh area in Tyre. The following day, a warning circulated through

⁵ UNICEF Lebanon Humanitarian Situation Report No. 9, 29 November 2024

⁶ Lebanese strive to rebuild amid fragile ceasefire. December 2024 I DW

⁷ The updated total toll of the Israeli aggression is 4.047 martyrs and 16.638 injured. December 2024 I MoPH

⁸ Mobility Snapshot - Round 66 - 05-12-2024 I IOM

⁹ Mobility Snapshot - Round 66 - 05-12-2024 I IOM

¹⁰ UNRWA Situation Report #15 on the Lebanon Emergency Response. December 2024 I UNRWA.

UN channels alerted staff to potential airstrike risks near UNRWA's Burj al-Barajneh Health Center. $^{\rm 11}$

As of December 4, approximately 34,000 Lebanese refugees have crossed into Lebanon from Syria through the Jdaidet Yabous and Joussieh border crossings since the November 27 ceasefire. While the Al Arida crossing reopened on December 2, its capacity remains limited due to technical issues, and only Lebanese nationals are being processed there. Since the ceasefire, an estimated 12,000 individuals, including non-Lebanese nationals, have entered Syria from Lebanon. This includes 4,200 Lebanese and 6,800 Syrians. Additionally, 4,530 Lebanese arrived from Iraq and 300 from Jordan.¹² As of December 5, **significant cross-border movements include 562,000 people crossing into Syria** (63% Syrians, 37% Lebanese), 41,000 people moving into Iraq, and 37,000 people crossing from Syria to Lebanon. **Currently, 151 collective shelters are operational, housing 9,000 IDPs.** This is a marked decline from the 188,000 IDPs hosted at these shelters days before the ceasefire.¹³

According to the World Bank, **housing is the sector most affected by the recent war, with an estimated \$2.8 billion in damage and over 99,000 housing units partially or fully damaged**. Losses in the housing sector are estimated at \$389 million.¹⁴ A remote assessment by UN-Habitat Lebanon examined building destruction and debris across seven districts in the South and Nabatiyeh governorates following the war in Lebanon since it began in October 2023. The assessment identified 15,633 totally or partially destroyed buildings, representing 6.6% of the 237,425 pre-war buildings. This includes 33,448 units in the South Governorate (9,692 buildings, 4.1%) and 23,756 units in Nabatiyeh Governorate (5,941 buildings, 2.5%), affecting 50.8% (191) of the 376 cadastres. The destruction generated 8,029,658 tonnes of debris, including 2,303,659 tonnes in the South governorate and 5,725,999 tonnes in the Nabatiyeh governorate .¹⁵

According to UNFPA, nearly half of the Syrian families returning to Lebanon are female-headed households, facing significant challenges to ensure their families' well-being. These women struggle to access essential health services, safe shelter, nutritious food, non-food items, and legal support to navigate complex administrative procedures. They also find it difficult to secure livelihoods, and some are forced to send adolescents in search of work. Protection risks have increased for women and girls, especially those who are trying to find safe shelter and meet their families' basic needs.¹⁶

¹¹ UNRWA Situation Report #13 on the Lebanon Emergency Response

¹² UNHCR Syria Emergency Response Brief - 5 December 2024 | ReliefWeb

¹³ Lebanon: At a Glance - Escalation of hostilities in Lebanon, as of 5 December 2024 [EN/AR] I OCHA

¹⁴ LEBANON Interim Damage and Loss Assessment (DaLA) ASSESSMENT REPORT NOVEMBER 2024 I World Bank

¹⁵ LEBANON – BUILDING DESTRUCTION AND DEBRIS QUANTITIES ASSESSMENT South and Nabatiyeh Governorates I UN-Habitat

¹⁶ Situation Report #4 Inux from Lebanon into Syria, November 2024 | UNFPA

Economic Activity, Livelihoods, and Food Security

According to the Food and Agriculture Organization (FAO), from September 22 to November 1, approximately 336 military strikes hit cropland, including 74 on irrigated land. In addition, 173 strikes impacted forested areas, primarily oak forests, particularly in southern and coastal Lebanon. Another 221 strikes affected grassland. The war has put at least 130 municipalities, including Baalbek, El-Hermel, El Nabatieh, and Marjaayoun, at significant risk of damage to agricultural land and assets.¹⁷ Additionally, 1,900 hectares of agricultural land have been damaged between October 8, 2023, and October 1, 2024.¹⁸

The 2024 FAO/WFP Crop and Food Security Assessment Mission (CFSAM) report revealed that cereal production in 2024 fell 40% below average, with wheat and barley harvests totaling only 113,700 tonnes and potato production totaling 610,700 tonnes, 8% below average. Import needs for 2024/25 were projected at 1.48 million tonnes, a 3% increase over the five-year average. Food prices remained prohibitively high, with the survival minimum expenditure basket reaching \$450 in July 2024, a 190% increase since 2021. By October 20, 2024, around 810,000 people had been displaced, predominantly from South and Nabatieh governorates, which host 20% of national cropland. Labour shortages threaten the olive and grape harvests and the upcoming planting season for wheat, barley, and vegetables. Over 230 hectares of cropland have been burned, with further risks of land abandonment in Baalbeck-Hermel and Beqaa Valley due to recent attacks. The survival minimum food expenditure basket cost rose by 4.5% between September and October 2024, driven by supply chain disruptions and increased demand.¹⁹

According to the World Bank, damage to Lebanon's agriculture sector is estimated at \$124 million, with 12-month losses totaling \$1.1 billion. Crops alone have suffered \$25 million in damage, leading to \$601 million in losses due to the displacement. Banana plantations, primarily in Tyre and Saida, account for \$353 million in losses due to both damage and inaccessibility. The olive harvest disruption is expected to result in \$58 million in losses, with 12% of olive groves destroyed, affecting the region's premium olive oil market. Citrus production has suffered \$16 million in losses, and other crops such as potatoes and vegetables have sustained \$111 million in losses, with 23% of the fields impacted. Livestock has been severely affected, with \$99 million in damage and \$533 million in losses, particularly in poultry (\$297 million) and cattle (\$154 million).

¹⁹ SPECIAL REPORT 2024 FAO/WFP CROP AND FOOD SECURITY ASSESSMENT MISSION (CFSAM) TO THE LEBANESE REPUBLIC. November 2024 | FAO

¹⁷ The impact of the ongoing conflict in Lebanon, December 2024 I FAO

¹⁸ Lebanon: At a Glance - Escalation of hostilities in Lebanon, as of 5 December 2024 [EN/AR] | OCHA

Around 13% of forests, 16% of grasslands, and 17% of riverine ecosystems have been affected by the war. In the South Governorate, 14% of the coastline has been damaged.²⁰

Health & Education

As of December 6, 2024, healthcare systems have faced severe disruptions due to targeted violence. A total of **241 healthcare personnel have been killed**, and 292 others have been injured. There have been 158 attacks on healthcare centers and **45 attacks that damaged healthcare facilities**. Transportation services were also impacted in 103 incidents, while 110 attacks directly affected healthcare workers. Additionally, 38 attacks disrupted the supply of essential healthcare materials.²¹ The attacks on hospitals included 67 incidents, targeting 40 hospitals. Seven hospitals were forcibly closed, and three operated partially. Emergency medical associations, which bore the brunt of the assaults, faced 238 attacks also hit 177 ambulances, 60 fire trucks, and 19 rescue vehicles. The violence led to the closure of 56 primary care centers, including 33 centers that were completely damaged in areas under constant attack. The electronic device attacks alone resulted in over 3,500 casualties (both dead and injured) within less than an hour. The cost of healthcare and medical treatment for the wounded exceeded \$4 million.²²

Damage to Lebanon's health facilities is estimated at \$74 million, with 66% of hospitals and 36% of primary healthcare centers affected. Losses total \$338 million, stemming from increased treatment costs for injuries and sickness (\$13 million), displacement (\$34 million), decreased revenue from inoperative facilities (\$201 million), and reduced health personnel availability, leading to higher mortality and morbidity (\$91 million). Additionally, 36% of hospitals and primary healthcare centers are partially or fully non-operational, further limiting service availability in affected areas.²³

As of November 26, 14 out of 27 UNRWA health centers were operational, while 13 were closed due to the security situation.²⁴ Since October 7, 2023, nearly half of all attacks on health care in Lebanon - 65 out of 137 incidents as of November 21, 2024 - resulted in the death of at least one health worker or patient. This 47% fatality rate is the highest among active conflicts globally, with most attacks

²⁰ LEBANON Interim Damage and Loss Assessment (DaLA) ASSESSMENT REPORT NOVEMBER 2024 I World Bank

 ²¹ LEBANON Response Emergency Health #11 update Situation 2024 December 6 - November 29 I WHO
²² The updated total toll of the Israeli aggression is 4,047 martyrs and 16,638 injured, December 2024 I
MoPH

²³ LEBANON Interim Damage and Loss Assessment (DaLA) ASSESSMENT REPORT NOVEMBER 2024 I World Bank

²⁴ UNRWA Situation Report #15 on the Lebanon Emergency Response, December 2024 I UNRWA.

disproportionately affecting health workers. According to the Surveillance System for Attacks on Health Care data, 68% of incidents in Lebanon targeted health personnel. Additionally, 63% of incidents impacted health transport, while 26% damaged health facilities. These attacks have a dual impact: lives are lost immediately, including health workers and patients, while in the aftermath, medical services are severely disrupted. The injured remain untreated, individuals reliant on regular care face gaps, and immunization programs for children are halted. Lebanon's health system is under immense strain, with 15 of its 153 hospitals either shut down or operating at reduced capacity. **In Nabatieh, one of the country's eight governorates, 40% of hospital bed capacity has been lost.** Currently, 1 in 10 hospitals nationwide has been directly affected by the hostilities.²⁵

Education has been severely disrupted, with 982 schools closed. Among them, 53 schools are used as shelters, while 397 have been shut down due to damage or insecurity.²⁶ **The war in Lebanon displaced approximately 150,000 public and 300,000 private school students for the 2024-25 academic year.** The start of the public school year was delayed to November 4, 2024, with many schools, especially in the south and east, not functional and used as shelters. The World Bank estimates that the total losses stand at \$215 million, covering the 2023-24 academic year and the first term of 2024-25. Losses include \$17 million for setting up temporary learning spaces and \$198 million in reduced private school revenues due to student displacement, with \$18 million for 2023-24 and \$180 million for the first term of 2024-25.²⁷

The Minister of Education and Higher Education, in cooperation with the Minister of Communication, launched a free internet package for teachers and learners. The Directorate General of Education has successfully started the school year, with 262,000 students currently enrolled in formal education. The Directorate General of Vocational and Technical Education announced the commencement of classes in 168 official vocational schools, with 122 offering distance education. Around 11,000 teachers are currently teaching, with 7,000 conducting remote lessons.²⁸

Water and Sanitation

The destruction of infrastructure continues to impact civilians. Forty **water facilities have been damaged, leaving nearly 450,000 residents without access to**

²⁵ <u>More health workers and patients have been killed proportionally in Lebanon than in Ukraine and Gaza.</u> <u>November 2024 I WHO</u>

²⁶ Lebanon: At a Glance - Escalation of hostilities in Lebanon, as of 5 December 2024 [EN/AR] I OCHA

²⁷ LEBANON Interim Damage and Loss Assessment (DaLA) ASSESSMENT REPORT NOVEMBER 2024 I World Bank

²⁸ Daily Situation Report #49, November 2024 I DRM

reliable water.²⁹ As reported by UNRWA, two water wells in Burj Shemali are out of service and in need of maintenance, but security challenges have delayed repairs. The camp is currently dependent on the three operational water wells.³⁰

Solid waste management infrastructure incurred \$3.1 million in damage to waste bins and trucks and over \$400,000 in facility damage. Waste management sector losses are driven by \$3 million in lost recycling revenues and \$13 million in increased waste management costs due to displacement.³¹. In comparison, the water sector faced approximately \$160 million in losses due to infrastructure damage, increased service demand, and revenue declines.³²

Anera's Response

Since the onset of hostilities, Anera has been crucial in providing emergency relief to those affected by the war in Lebanon. As of November 27, 2024, the organization has assisted a total of **1,109,387 people**, offering a range of vital services to meet immediate needs. Anera has served **92,239 meals**, ensuring that thousands of displaced individuals have access to nutritious food during this time of war and displacement. In response to the severe water shortages in many areas, Anera has distributed **165,530 gallons of water**, helping address the displaced communities' basic hydration needs.

Anera has also been actively supporting the healthcare sector by distributing **775,314 doses of medication** and providing **121,078 medical supplies** to ensure that IDPs have access to essential healthcare services. These supplies have been vital in managing health conditions resulting from the war. In addition to medical care, Anera has focused on improving shelter conditions for displaced families by distributing **27,778 bedding items**, providing people with the necessary protection from cold weather.

Understanding the importance of hygiene, Anera has distributed **31,341 hygiene kits**, which have been crucial in preventing the spread of diseases in overcrowded shelters. Additionally, the organization has provided **2,214 female hygiene kits**, addressing the specific needs of women and girls during the war. To help IDPs cope with the cold and other environmental challenges, Anera has distributed **1,608 articles of clothing**, ensuring that vulnerable individuals have access to essential clothing to protect them from the elements.

²⁹ Lebanon: At a Glance - Escalation of hostilities in Lebanon, as of 5 December 2024 [EN/AR] I OCHA

³⁰ UNRWA Situation Report #15 on the Lebanon Emergency Response, December 2024 I UNRWA.

³¹ LEBANON Interim Damage and Loss Assessment (DaLA) ASSESSMENT REPORT NOVEMBER 2024 I World Bank

³² Lebanon: Flash Update #46 - Escalation of hostilities in Lebanon, as of 21 November 2024, OCHA