



Lebanon Humanitarian Flash Appeal - DPNA Emergency Response

May 2026



DPNA
جمعية التنمية للإنسان والبيئة
Development for People and Nature Association

1 Context Overview

Lebanon continues to face a major, complex, and rapidly evolving humanitarian crisis despite the ceasefire announced on 17 April 2026. Security conditions remain highly unstable across several areas, while localized hostilities and extensive destruction of civilian infrastructure, particularly in South Lebanon and the Bekaa, continue to block safe returns, restrict humanitarian access, delay stabilization and recovery efforts.

The humanitarian situation remains deeply alarming. According to the latest OCHA Flash Update, more than 1,049,000 internally displaced persons have been registered by the Ministry of Social Affairs (MoSA), including 129,724 individuals currently hosted in 632 collective shelters. At the same time, nearly one quarter of the population is projected to face acute food insecurity in the coming months. OCHA further reports that hostilities continue to expand across South Lebanon and Nabatieh, with new displacement orders being issued almost daily. **More than 87 villages and towns are now inaccessible, representing approximately 14.8% of Lebanon's territory.**

Meanwhile, the Lebanon Flash Appeal: the emergency humanitarian response framework coordinated by the Lebanese Government and the United Nations to address escalating needs linked to conflict, displacement, and the collapse of essential services, remains critically underfunded, with only 40.8% of the required funding secured to date. This significant funding gap is severely constraining the ability of humanitarian actors to sustain and scale up life-saving interventions.

The crisis is marked by large-scale and protracted displacement, the continuous deterioration of socio-economic conditions, and mounting pressure on public systems and host communities that are already overstretched.

The majority of displaced families are now living outside collective shelters, hosted by relatives, residing in inadequate housing, or relying on informal arrangements with limited access to humanitarian assistance and protection mechanisms.

Crisis Snapshot

 **>1,049,000**
forcibly displaced
individuals (IDPs)
(MoSA registered)



 **129,724**
displaced in col-
lective shelters



 **632**
collective
shelters
(DRM Lebanon)

2,896
martyrs

 **8,824**
injuries

24% of the population
projected to face
acute food insecurity
(Apr -Aug 2026)

2 Humanitarian Situation

The humanitarian context remains highly volatile and multidimensional, with critical needs across all sectors. Needs are rapidly increasing while response capacity is weakening due to funding gaps.



Displacement & Protection:

Displacement remains fluid, with families unable to safely return due to insecurity, unexploded ordnance (UXO), and destroyed infrastructure. Overcrowded shelters increase risks of gender-based violence (GBV), child protection concerns, and psychosocial distress. Recent protection assessments published by humanitarian partners also highlight a growing increase in tensions within collective shelters.



Food Security:

Approximately 1.24 million people are facing acute food insecurity. Food is available in markets, but access has collapsed due to inflation, loss of income, and the near-total breakdown of livelihoods. Displaced families living outside collective shelters are among the most vulnerable, with particularly limited access to humanitarian assistance and very high rental costs.



Health:

The health system continues to face major challenges. Repeated attacks on health infrastructure and medical personnel continue to severely undermine access to essential healthcare services. Since the beginning of the escalation, more than 150 attacks against healthcare facilities and personnel have been documented, resulting in deaths and injuries among medical workers. More than 50% of health sector partners may be affected by service interruptions due to funding shortages, with significant consequences for the management of chronic diseases and the continuity of essential care.



Education:

Over 460 schools remain used as shelters, leaving thousands of children without access to education and exposing them to long-term protection and development risks. Repeated interruptions to schooling, combined with difficulties in accessing online learning, are increasing the risks of school dropout.



Basic Services & Infrastructure:

Severe damage to water systems, roads, and public infrastructure continues to restrict access to essential services. Safe water, sanitation, and hygiene (WASH) remain critically limited, particularly in overcrowded shelters, increasing public health risks.

3 DPNA Emergency Response

As a frontline national humanitarian actor, Development for People and Nature Association (DPNA) maintains a continuous, solidarity-based, integrated, and multi-sectoral response to address the essential needs of the most affected populations, including in hard-to-reach areas such as Tyre, the Saida district, Jezzine district, the Chouf, and Iqlim El Kharroub.

In a context marked by ongoing precarious conditions for returns, DPNA through its volunteers ensures the continuous management of a collective shelter in Abra (Saida district), hosting 447 displaced persons on a 24/7 basis. The center provides essential support in terms of shelter and assistance, as well as two daily hot and/or cold meals (lunch and dinner). Despite the ceasefire, the number of hosted families has remained stable, with only limited fluctuations, as conditions for safe return remain restricted in several areas.

In parallel, DPNA supports displaced families living outside collective shelters, including those welcomed by relatives, in host communities, or in rented accommodation, through combined interventions in food assistance and non-food items (NFIs).

DPNA Key Interventions

Non-Food Items (NFIs)

Distribution of essential non-food items (NFIs), including blankets, mattresses, pillows, and other basic household items, to displaced populations in shelters and informal settings outside shelters

Food Security

- Provision of daily hot and cold meals through Men Dayetna social kitchen, targeting displaced populations in Abra Shelter
- Distribution of food parcels to vulnerable households in shelters, host communities, and informal settlements

WASH (Water, Sanitation and Hygiene)

- Distribution of hygiene kits to internally displaced persons (IDPs across shelters, host communities, and informal settings
- Provision of cleaning kits per shelter to improve sanitation conditions
- Provision of safe drinking water and water trucking services to IDPs in Abra Shelter

Community-Based Protection

- Awareness sessions and community engagement to improve access to legal services in coordination with the Legal Helpdesk project
- Integration of psychosocial support and recreational activities, in coordination with DPNA's Protection Department, targeting children
- Delivery of sessions for women on stress management and positive parenting during emergencies

Local Coordination & Access Facilitation

- Strong coordination with ministries, municipalities, unions of municipalities, national and sub-national coordination mechanisms
- Contribution to needs assessments and field data collection to support evidence-based response

Key Achievements to Date



4 Operational Challenges

Despite strong field presence, DPNA like other national and subnational responders, is operating under severe constraints:

- Critical funding shortages threatening continuity of life-saving assistance
- Increasing access limitations due to insecurity and damaged infrastructure
- Rising humanitarian needs far exceeding available resources
- Heavy pressure on local systems and already overstretched host communities

Without urgent additional support, DPNA risks reducing or suspending essential services reaching thousands of displaced people.

5 Way Forward & Funding

The humanitarian situation in Lebanon is becoming increasingly critical. With only 40.8% of the Flash Appeal funded, essential life-saving interventions are at serious risk of interruption.

In this context, the most urgent needs include:

- the continuation of emergency food assistance for displaced families living in collective shelters and outside shelters;
- access to safe drinking water, hygiene kits, and WASH services in severely affected areas;
- support for the sheltering of displaced families through Cash for Rent mechanisms and basic assistance;
- the maintenance of protection services and psychosocial support for children, women, and the most vulnerable groups;
- access to primary healthcare services and essential medicines within a severely weakened health system.

What DPNA Urgently Calls For

- Immediate increase in flexible, multi-sector, and long-term funding to sustain life-saving operations
- Direct support to national NGOs as frontline responders
- Scale-up of food security and WASH interventions to meet rapidly increasing needs
- Strong and coordinated advocacy for a durable ceasefire at national and international levels
- Enhanced coordination for a more effective, unified humanitarian response in Lebanon

Lebanon is no longer facing a short-term humanitarian crisis, but a protracted, steadily worsening, and increasingly complex one, marked by repeated displacement, the exhaustion of host communities, and a continued deterioration in living conditions. While needs are rapidly increasing, humanitarian response capacities are weakening due to chronic underfunding and growing operational constraints.

DPNA remains committed to delivering timely, efficient, and needs-based assistance in the most affected and underserved areas. However, without urgent and sustained donor support, the continuity of essential life-saving assistance is at serious risk.

Immediate action is needed to prevent further deterioration and to sustain humanitarian assistance for thousands of displaced and vulnerable people across Lebanon.

We extend our sincere appreciation to our partners and donors for their continued trust, solidarity and support during this period. Their contributions were essential in enabling the adaptation of ongoing projects, as well as the implementation of new projects and initiatives, in response to the evolving context.



During this period, several ongoing projects were reoriented and adapted into emergency response support to better address the urgent and changing needs on the ground. In parallel, new initiatives and projects were launched across multiple sectors, including emergency assistance, food security, protection, livelihoods, youth empowerment, women's empowerment and community development.

These interventions targeted vulnerable populations, particularly internally displaced persons (IDPs), host communities, women, youth, and children, ensuring a responsive and inclusive approach to the humanitarian situation.

