Lebanon was already going through a triple disaster before the Beirut Port Explosion: millions of refugees, a very severe economic crisis as well as COVID-19. The explosion killed over 130 people and has displaced 300,000. World Vision teams are on the ground assessing the needs of the most vulnerable girls and boys and their families.

For over 45 years, we have had continuous operational presence in the country implementing humanitarian and development projects.

We currently have 311 staff working in 5 out of 8 regions in Lebanon including 11 Disaster Management experts.

World Vision has already mobilised 70 staff to work towards delivering assistance to thousands of the most vulnerable people in Beirut.

The World Vision office in Beirut is located on a hill some distance from the centre was slightly damaged as a result of the blast but remains fully functional.

World Vision has 15 local partners in Beirut and Mount Lebanon.

World Vision Lebanon is planning to launch a response to assist the victims of the blast:

For the initial phase of the response World Vision aims to reach 120,000 people.

The initial assistance will include:

- Basic needs (eg. food, household items, and hygiene supplies) for families who are now homeless and/or hosted in schools, and centers that have been set up by the local authorities.
- Temporary shelter provision and short term shelter repairs for families that have had their homes damaged.
- Psychological First Aid to help children and families affected by the explosion.

In 2019, World Vision's humanitarian program in Lebanon assisted 516,557 people (including 296,382 children) through WASH, livelihoods, education, child protection sectors.

Over 446,388 people were reached through cash modality.

World Vision Lebanon is also implementing a COVID-19 response which is assisting 196,427 people (including 50,717 girls and 47,699 boys).

Contacts: Hans Bederski, National Director, Hans_Bederski@wvi.org; Rami Shamma, Operations Director, rami_shamma@wvi.org