

Situation Report #4 – 2 to 16 March 2026

## Situation Update

The escalation of hostilities in **Lebanon** has now entered **day 15**, while **regional** tensions linked to the wider conflict continued for **17 days**, with **no immediate indication of de-escalation**. Evacuation orders continue to expand across **South Lebanon, Beirut, Mount Lebanon, and the Bekaa Valley**, with warnings issued by the country to the south instructing residents to evacuate and indicating that return will not be permitted until further notice. Reports state that entire families who chose to remain in their homes in some affected areas have been killed during strikes, highlighting the **severe protection risks facing civilians**.

In recent days, **strikes have increasingly targeted critical infrastructure and transport routes**, including two key bridges connecting major towns in South Lebanon, further disrupting civilian movement and humanitarian access. Trucks transporting goods are reportedly warned not to move along the southern coastal road, further **constraining assistance delivery**. Airstrikes also impacted central Beirut and residential areas in Mount Lebanon, reflecting the continued expansion of hostilities beyond traditional frontline zones.

Meanwhile, **displacement continues to rise, and shelter capacity remains under severe strain**. With collective shelters overcrowded or at full capacity, many displaced families have been forced to seek alternative arrangements, including unfinished buildings, informal shelters, and makeshift tents along the coastal Corniche from Saida to Beirut. Recent **heavy rainstorms and falling temperatures have further worsened conditions**, destroying displacement tents and flooding temporary sites, leaving displaced households exposed to harsh weather and heightened risks. The prolonged escalation is also contributing to **pockets of civil unrest**, as well as heightened social tensions in several areas, with growing fears among communities that **prolonged displacement and political polarization could increase the risk of localized sectarian tensions**.



WVL Operational Footprint Day 1-15

## Humanitarian Snapshot



**1,049,328** new IDPs (since March 2)

**62,000-90,000** IDPs from September 2024 escalation



**132,742** IDPs in collective shelters  
**29,000** children **33,622** families

**886** people killed, including **103** children  
**2,141** people injured



**622** collective shelters

**10** children killed **every day** (since March 2nd)  
**36** children injured **every day**

## WORLD VISION LEBANON (WVL) RESPONSE

As of March 15, WVL reached 150,789 individuals (52,777 children)

Including:

- 124,870 Lebanese new IDPs (43,705 children) in 322 collective shelters.
- 25,919 newly arrived Syrians crossing into Lebanon (9,072 children).

Since March 2, 2026, WV distributed:

- 167,735 hot meals
- 32,932 nutritious snacks
- 7,076 blankets
- 5,911 mattresses
- 5,280 ready-to-eat meals
- 4,939 family hygiene kits
- 2,897 sleeping mats
- 1,970 bread packs
- 1,159 pillows
- 923 light ready-to-eat meals
- 500 cold meals
- 457 winterization kits
- 139 trash bins
- 30 trash bags
- 16 community kitchens supported with fresh and dry ingredients
- 15 stoves

A rapid remote phone-based assessment is underway with households of Registered Children (RCs) across all World Vision Area Sponsorship Programs to understand displacement status and priority needs. Preliminary findings from 4,089 households assessed (representing 6,424 RCs) indicate that around **one-third of registered children are displaced, with most affected households residing outside collective shelters**. The most frequently reported support needed includes cash and food assistance, humanitarian urgent health and protection concerns. These findings will inform the integration of children registered in WVL's child sponsorship program and their households into ongoing response planning with reallocated WVI funds.

## Media Updates

- Miss Lebanon 2024, and ENOUGH Ambassador Nada Koussa joins World Vision Lebanon on a field mission supporting displaced ([Link](#))
- WVL National Director Heidi Diedrich shares an urgent update on the humanitarian crisis in Lebanon with the Australian Broadcasting Corporation (ABC) ([Link](#))
- Children at risk as evacuation orders trigger a new wave of displacement across Lebanon – press release ([Link](#))

## ADVOCACY ASKS

**Scale urgent funding for the response.** World Vision Lebanon requires **USD 5 million over the next 30 days to reach 120,000 vulnerable people**, including displaced children and families, with food, basic relief items, WASH services, and child protection and psychosocial support. Governments and donors are urged to provide rapid, flexible funding to scale the humanitarian response, as overall needs far exceed current capacity: with over 820,000 people displaced, a critical funding gap is limiting national response.

**Strengthen coordination to reach all displaced populations.** Collective **shelters are at full capacity**, with the **majority of displaced families remaining outside shelters**, living in the open air, in cars, and in other informal locations. Strong coordination between the Lebanese Government and international and local partners is essential to ensure assistance reaches those most in need.

**Invest in community stability and social cohesion.** Internal tensions are being exacerbated by the rapid, mass forced displacement at the center of this escalation. **Tensions between displaced families and host communities are reported.** Support is needed for community-based responses and local civil society efforts to maintain stability and prevent further social strain, even as emergency response continues.

**Protect civilians and humanitarian responders.** All parties must immediately cease hostilities and prevent further escalation. **Civilians, humanitarian workers, first responders, and medical personnel must be protected** in accordance with International Humanitarian Law, particularly following the killing of paramedics during the response.

**Prioritize children in the response.** Immediate action is required to **mitigate protection risks and prevent further school disruption and psychosocial harm**. The vast majority of shelters are hosted in schools, requiring urgent funding safeguard children's well-being and their access to education.

## Funding

At the onset of the escalation, World Vision Lebanon (WVL) was able to **immediately activate its response through pre-positioned funding for mass displacement and repurposing existing funds, amounting to USD 2.42 million from existing resources within the first week.**

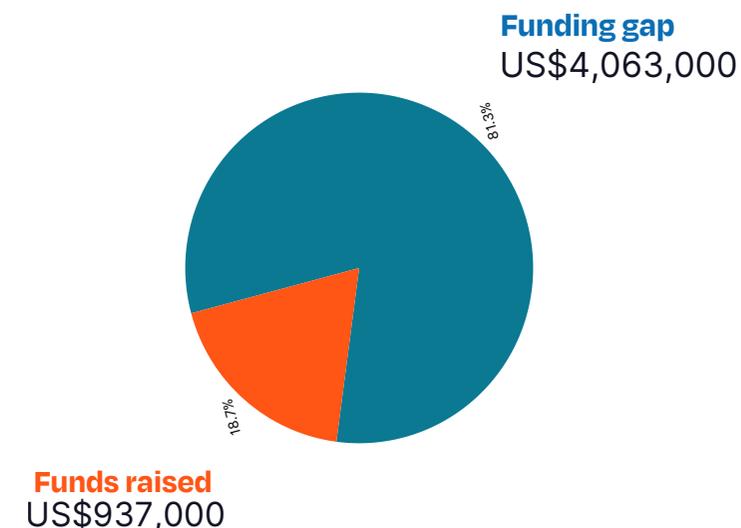
Fifteen days into the response, WVL has also secured **USD 937,000 in new funding** against the initial USD 5 million appeal to sustain support for internally displaced families for 30 days. Key contributions include **USD 200,000 from World Vision US, USD 447,000 from World Vision Germany through Aktion Deutschland Hilft (ADH), USD 100,000 from World Vision Korea, USD 170,000 from World Vision Hong Kong, and USD 20,000 from World Vision New Zealand.**

With more than **1 million people now internally displaced**, humanitarian needs are escalating rapidly, placing growing pressure on already limited resources. In response, WVL is currently finalizing its 90 day response plan and will be soon sharing its updated targets to scale up assistance to affected communities with food, core relief items, WASH services, child protection, education, and health support.

## LOCAL PARTNERS

Local partners remain at the frontline of the emergency response, enabling rapid assistance to displaced families. Through its localisation approach, World Vision Lebanon works closely with **16 local civil society and community partners**, including Basmeh & Zeitooneh, Genius Association, Will Association, Lacode, Ahlam Lajea, Nahnoo, World Central Kitchen, and Mabarrat. These partners play a critical role in delivering assistance, supporting shelters, preparing meals, distributing relief items, and identifying vulnerable households.

**Funding Target: US \$ 5M for 30 days**



**We would like to thank the hundreds of thousands of generous child sponsors, donors, and supporters whose contributions make this work possible:**



FOR FURTHER INFORMATION, PLEASE CONTACT:

**Heidi Diedrich**  
National Director  
[heidi\\_diedrich@wvi.org](mailto:heidi_diedrich@wvi.org)

**Elissar Genayel**  
Response Director  
[elissar\\_gemayel@wvi.org](mailto:elissar_gemayel@wvi.org)

**Maya Bou Nassar**  
Advocacy & Communications Manager  
[maya\\_bounassar@wvi.org](mailto:maya_bounassar@wvi.org)