

Situation Report #3 – 2 to 12 March 2026

Situation Update

Escalation of hostilities in Lebanon is intense and rapidly expanding, resulting in **nearly 820,000 forcibly displaced people - more than 200,000 of them children** - in *less than two weeks*. Evacuation orders are expanding in the South, in Beirut, and in The Bekaa Valley. The country to the south launched the **'South of Zahrani River'** initiative with evacuation orders now covering the entire region south of the Litani River, triggering waves of mass displacement as well as repeated displacement among already vulnerable families.

In several Christian-majority towns in the South, residents initially resisted leaving their homes but were ultimately evacuated under the escort of UNIFIL for civilian protection. Hostilities are increasingly affecting areas beyond the 'traditional' frontline zones, a troubling trend that points to a more aggressive escalation than that of 2024. Recent airstrikes hit the neighborhoods of **Haret Saida, Tyre, Aramoun, Ramlet El Bayda**, areas deemed safer, in one case targeting a car nearby displaced families staying in tents. Targeting of **central Beirut** is new - with strikes including hotels and residential buildings that inevitably affect civilians. Nearly 690 people have been killed, with 91 children killed since March 1. UNICEF estimates that 10 children are killed a day.

Lebanon's Ministry of Social Affairs reports **822,600 internally displaced people self-registered on the Government's digital platform**, indicating that overall displacement is significantly higher than that captured through collective shelter reporting. In addition, almost **84,000 Syrians** and more than **8,000 Lebanese** have crossed into Syria since 2 March.

Violations to International Humanitarian Law continue, with frontline responders at great risk. To date, 14 paramedics were killed, including one member of the Lebanese Red Cross, underscoring the growing risks faced by emergency personnel.



WVL Operational Footprint Day 1-10

Humanitarian Snapshot



822,600 new IDPs (since March 2)

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



128,200 IDPs in collective shelters
29,000 children **33,200** families

687 people killed, including **91** children
1,774 people injured



596 collective shelters

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

WORLD VISION LEBANON (WVL) RESPONSE

As of March 11, WVL reached 123,017 individuals (43,056 children)

Including:

- **97,098** Lebanese new IDPs (**33,984** children) in **279** collective shelters.
 - **25,919** newly arrived Syrians crossing into Lebanon (**9,072** children).
- World Vision Lebanon was among the **first humanitarian responders**, reaching around **6,000 individuals** within hours of the escalation.
 - Assistance includes **hot meals, ready-to-eat food, hygiene kits, mattresses, blankets, water trucking** and other essential relief items, alongside **psychological first aid for children and families**.
 - WVL is also supporting **child protection, psychosocial activities, and alternative learning options to help children** cope with displacement and school closures.
 - WVL continues to contribute to the broader humanitarian response in coordination with the **Ministry of Social Affairs (MoSA)** and sector partners.
1. Within the Cash Working Group co-chaired by WVL, the government launched the national IDP self-registration platform and activated the Shock Responsive Safety Net (SRSN) to support government-led assistance.
 2. Through advocacy led by WVL's Food Security focal point, Ready-to-Eat (RTE) food assistance was **extended to 7 days** following validation of average household sizes. This helps reduce operational costs while ensuring longer food coverage for displaced families. The Ministry of Agriculture assigned WVL to receive, condition, and distribute fresh food ingredients, enabling the provision of additional nutritious food support to affected communities.

Since March 2, 2026, WV distributed:

- **90,234** hot meals
- **26,176** nutritious snacks
- **5,973** blankets
- **4,937** family hygiene kits
- **4,758** mattresses
- **4,064** ready-to-eat food kits
- **2,897** sleeping mats
- **1,970** bread packs
- **627** light ready-to-eat meals
- **500** cold meals
- **8** community kitchens supported with fresh and dry ingredients



LOCAL PARTNERS

Local partners are at the frontline of this **emergency response** both as first responders in their communities and enabling rapid assistance to displaced families. Through its localisation approach, World Vision Lebanon works closely with a network of **local civil society organizations, faith-based groups, and community initiatives** whose presence in affected areas allows for immediate mobilisation, contextual knowledge, and trusted community access.

A total of **16 Partners** were mobilised through different modalities, including **Basmeh & Zeitooneh, Genius Association, Will Association, Lacode, Ahlam Lajea, Nahnoo, World Central Kitchen, and Mabarrat among others**. These partners are instrumental in delivering assistance, supporting shelters, preparing meals, distributing relief items, and identifying vulnerable households.

This localised response model significantly strengthens the speed, reach, and acceptance of humanitarian assistance, demonstrating the critical role of local actors in leading and sustaining emergency response efforts, particularly in contexts where displacement is widespread and needs evolve rapidly.



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.

Media Updates

- World Vision Lebanon Responding Across the Country Video ([Link](#))
- Field video: "On a mission with WVL Communications Coordinator" ([Link](#))
- "More than Numbers" carousel highlighting response reach and quotes ([Link](#))

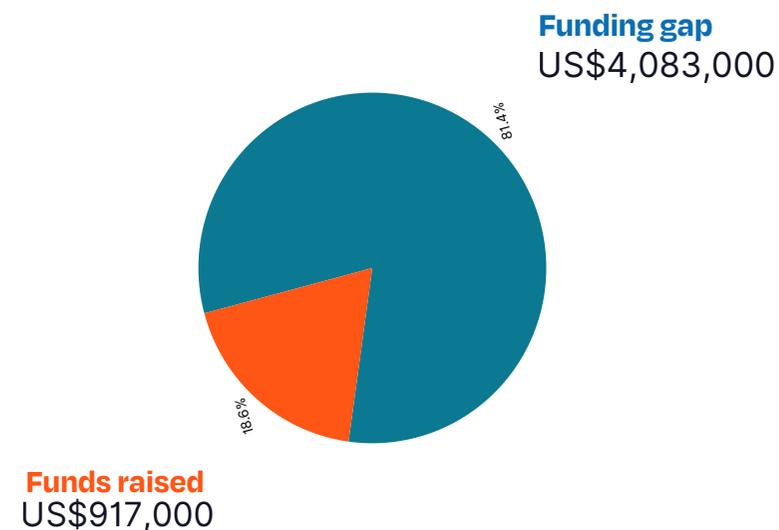
Funding

In the first 1.5 weeks of the response, World Vision Lebanon (WVL) mobilized **USD 2.42 million from existing funds** and raised **USD 917,000** in new funding, enabling WVL to reach **103,941 individuals** affected by the crisis.

New 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**, and **USD 170,000 from World Vision Hong Kong**.

Despite these contributions, funding is not commensurate with the rapidly escalating needs. To sustain assistance for **120,000 internally displaced people (IDPs) over the next 30 days**, WVL requires an estimated **USD 5 million** to ensure child protection remains at the center of the response, while WV Lebanon continues to deliver food assistance, core relief items, WASH services, education, and primary health care support.

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:



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