



HEALTH BRIEF 19 May - 25 June 2025



Ceasefire - Situation overview

- A total of **49** new injuries and **14** deaths related to the war have been reported from 20 May till 20 June 2025.
- 163 incidents of attacks on healthcare. 46 impacted health facilities, 241 fatalities, 296 injuries, 113 impacted healthcare workers, 105 impacted medical transport.

Impact of Escalations of Hostilities

Lebanon War 2023-2025: Tree Diagram in numbers (Deaths and Injuries) from 08 October 2023 to 20 June 2025.





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Impact of hostilities from 8 Oct 2023 - 20 June 2025. Source: MoPH Lebanon.





Source: Displacement Tracking Matrix 05 June 2025.





Health needs and response

- **Public Health Emergency Operation Center** is still coordinating the emergency response and referral of the injured patients. The staff are also managing the emergency stock by ensuring the availability of adequate trauma kits, medications and other medical supplies in all hospitals and PHCs.
- WHO continued to support the PHEOC operations including staffing, coordination work and technical support.

Lessons Learned workshop

In response to the ongoing conflict's impact on Lebanon's healthcare system, the Ministry of Public Health, in collaboration with WHO, held a one-day workshop to review and enhance hospital and EMS data reporting during wartime, aiming to improve accuracy, timeliness, completeness, and coordination.

A total of **47** hospitals from all Lebanese Governorates were invited to the workshop, selected to ensure balanced representation based on casualty volume and to promote experience-sharing. Participants—including hospital representatives, EMS agencies, and other stakeholders—were grouped for peer learning and conducted SWOT analyses on key data quality themes to identify strengths, weaknesses, opportunities, and threats.

Trauma Care Trainings and Refreshers

As part of WHO ongoing efforts to strengthen the capacity among Lebanese healthcare workers in managing trauma injured patients in conflict situation and providing needed resuscitation and ensure quality all through the continuum of care. WHO, in close collaboration with the PHEOC, initiated a new round of trainings under the umbrella of the trauma care including:

- Mass Casualties Management (MCM) trainings followed by activation drills that were found to be crucial for the hospitals for the proper management of the flow of mass casualties during the peak of the hostilities against Lebanon.

- Emergency and critical care for nursing staff in conflict situation training was provided to staff working in hospitals. These trainings are being rolled-out to graduate national trainers and to reach the maximum number of frontliners inside hospitals.

- **Surgical skills training** were provided to 40 residents in general and orthopedic surgeries. In addition, a TOT on surgical skills has been provided to 2 surgeons at regional level. An adaptation workshop will be conducted with relevant societies and orders to gain acceptability of this training for graduated surgeons at national level.

- As part of resuscitation trainings, 5 public hospitals received **mechan**ical ventilation and airway management training. They will need support to properly establish functional inhalation teams.

Those trainings will be conducted between July and September 2025 in close collaboration with PHEOC/MOPH.

Epidemiological situation

Food and waterborne diseases 19 May - 21 June 2025



| Hepatitis A | | | | | | | | |
|--|--------|----------------|------------|--|--|--|--|--|
| New suspected cases: 94 New confirmed cases: 62 Cumulative cases for 2025: 909 | | | | | | | | |
| DISTRIBUTION | | | | | | | | |
| Akkar | Beqaa | Mt Lebanon | N. Lebanon | | | | | |
| 26 | 14 | 8 | 51 | | | | | |
| Nabatieh | Beirut | Baalbek/Hermel | S. Lebanon | | | | | |
| 9 | 4 | 20 | 8 | | | | | |

Vaccine preventable diseases 19 May - 21 June 2025

| Disease outbreaks | New suspected cases | Location of cases | Vaccination status of cases | Cumulative for 2025 | Confirmation |
|----------------------|---------------------|--|-------------------------------------|------------------------|--|
| AFP | 4 | 3 Beirut, 1 Mount Lebanon | 4 fully vaccinated | 37 | 0 |
| Measles | 2 | 1 Beirut, 1 Bekaa, 1 South Lebanon | 1 fully vaccinated & 2 zero dose | 28 | 1 confirmed measles |
| Meningitis | 52 | 1 Akkar, 9 Beirut, 1 Bekaa, 12 Lebanon, 3 Nabatieh, 6 Nor Lebanon, 12 South Lebano | th | 163 | 17 Bacterial 32 viral |

Preparedness and response

• Ministry of Public Health has reported during this period among a family of 7 individuals a total of 4 infections with human bocavirus (and co-infection with Streptococcus pneumoniae and Epstein-Barr virus) including 2 child fatalities from respiratory distress. Nasopharyngeal and blood specimens from all family members and neighbors have been collected and prepared for shipment to a WHO Collaborating Center for metagenomics sequencing.

Epidemiological situation

Preparedness and response (continued)

From weeks 21 until 25 of 2025, 22 EBS signals of infectious diseases were registered at the Epidemiological Surveillance Program (ESP) through the call center (60%), the ESU (10%), and DHIS2 (30%). Public (60%), health facilities (30%), and NGO (10%) were the different sources of information.
The Epidemiological Surveillance Program (ESP) selected 15 of these signals, of which 100% were verified within 24 hours and all investigated within 48hrs. 15 signals were verified as true and included: 4 AWD signals, 1 signal of rabies exposure, 1 chemical incident, 3 signals of food poisoning, 1 signal of snake bite, 2 signals of acute jaundice, and 3 signals of meningitis.

• Following a dog bite in April 2025, a 5-year-old boy experienced onset of symptoms on May 24 and passed away on the 3rd of June from rabies.

• Following an event at a hotel in Beirut, **22** cases of food poisoning were reported with no hospital admission. Stool cultures were collected with one testing positive for E.Coli. The cuisine of the hotel is currently under inspection and water sources were found to be contaminated with fecal coliform. Additionally, food items are currently being cultured.

• A family cluster of four confirmed human bocavirus cases was reported including the deaths of **2** children aged 1.5 and 2.5. The family had no travel history and no reported contact with animals. Positive specimens from family members and neighbors living in the same building have been collected and shipped to Francis Crick Institute, a WHO Collaborating Center in London.

War is a disease, peace is the cure. As we mark the 80th anniversary of the UN Charter today, its vision and principles of lasting peace are keeping us - all the peoples of the United Nations - accountable to create a healthier, safer, fairer world for generations to come.

- Dr. Tedros Adhanom Ghebreyesus, WHO Director-General



WHO response

Strengthening Lebanon's digital health system



With the generous support from the European Union in Lebanon, WHO in collaboration with Lebanese Ministry of Public Health has introduced Phase II of the Logistics Management System (LMS) trainings in drug distribution centers and warehouses across the country, including departments of cancer, TB, HIV, and chronic diseases.

LMS software helps track every medication's journey in Lebanon, from purchase to reaching beneficiaries, ensuring better transparency, efficiency, and access for all.

New features were developed at the request of the MoPH, and WHO provided hardware and onsite training to support healthcare system.

Supporting nurses in NCD management through nutrition education



Thanks to the generous support the European Union in Lebanon - Luxembourg- WHO Partnership for UHC, WHO in collaboration with MoPH Primary Health Care Department has launched a Dietary Counseling Training for nurses in PHCs in Beirut, Mount Lebanon, North, and other governorates across the country.

Nurses at PHCs play a key role in supporting patients living with diabetes, hypertension and other NCDs. This training offers them with essential nutrition knowledge & counseling techniques to promote healthier lifestyles.

Training is taking place over 2 weeks for 3 different groups of dedicated PHC nurses. Part of the national NCD Toolkit launch. Let's empower our healthcare system together!

Launching the Pandemic Fund: a platform for partnership and preparedness



The official launching workshop of the Pandemic Fund is currently taking place, marking a significant milestone in efforts to strengthen pandemic prevention, preparedness, and response capabilities at the national level.

This event formally initiates the implementation of the Fund and serves as a platform for implementing entities and key stakeholders to engage in meaningful discussions. It also provides an opportunity to explore avenues for collaboration, ultimately aiming to develop a well-coordinated action plan grounded in the One Health approach.

WHO field visits to Primary Healthcare Centers in Lebanon



This week, WHO field monitoring team visited several Primary Health Care Centers (PHCs) in Beirut, including Home Lebanon primary Health Care Center – Fanar and Jdeideh Municipality Primary Health Care Center.

This visit is considered a part of weekly monitoring exercise conducted on a national level across different governorates to ensure that essential medications are consistently available and properly dispensed.

The team closely monitors: Medication availability, patients' registration and dispensing practices .

This initiative is a part of World Health Organization (WHO)'s ongoing commitment to strengthening Lebanon's healthcare system and ensuring patients receive the quality care they deserve. This project is in collaboration with the Lebanese Ministry of Public Health and funded by European Union.

WHO response

WHO, Ministry of Health and the Government of Japan act to strengthen emergency response and resilience





The World Health Organization Lebanon, in collaboration with Lebanon's Ministry of Public Health (MoPH) and with vital support from the Government of Japan, has launched a major health initiative to reinforce Lebanon's emergency health response and infrastructure. The project, inaugurated at the Karantina medical supplies warehouse, comes at a crucial time for Lebanon's overstretched health sector. It targets three core areas: expanding the Logistics Management System (LMS) to public hospitals, upgrading hospital blood banks, and enhancing the national medical supplies warehouse. These measures are designed to improve emergency preparedness, reduce medical stockouts, and ensure safer, more effective healthcare delivery especially for vulnerable groups affected by ongoing crises.

Japan's role in this initiative is central and transformative. Through both financial and technical assistance, the Japanese government has reinforced its long-standing partnership with WHO and MoPH. Ambassador Magoshi Masayuki emphasized Japan's commitment to building sustainable, resilient healthcare systems in Lebanon.

WHO is also working hand-in-hand with the Japan International Cooperation Agency (JICA), under this project for greater harmonization and coordination. This overall collaboration reflects Japan's broader dedication to regional stability and recovery, as it continues to invest in critical infrastructure that supports long-term resilience and institutional capacity. The project stands as a model for scalable healthcare reform and a testament to Japan's pivotal role in Lebanon's path toward sustainable health sector reform. <u>Read full article</u>.

WHO and MoPH reinforce health preparedness in Lebanon with funds from ECHO, CERF and Korea



In collaboration with the Ministry of Public Health MoPH and with the generous support of ECHO, CERF, and the Republic of Korea, WHO distributed 330 trauma emergency surgery sets to 32 public hospitals across Lebanon.

At this critical time for the country, this essential support strengthens Lebanon's emergency preparedness and reinforces WHO commitment to support the public health system in Lebanon

Shaping Lebanon's health future: national consultation on WHO Country Cooperation Strategy 2026–2030



On the 16th of June, WHO Lebanon brought together key stakeholders from the different sectors for a national consultation on the new proposed Country Cooperation Strategy (CCS) 2026–2030.

The CCS is WHO's strategic framework that guides its support to Lebanon's health priorities over the next 4 years, and was developed in alliance with the National Health Strategy 2030, the WHO 14th General Programme of Work (GPW14), and the UN Sustainable Development Cooperation Framework (UNSDCF). During the event, participants engaged in rich discussions on the proposed health priorities and strategic directions. Representatives from the different ministries, donors, UN agencies, academia, NGOs, and professional associations shared insights to ensure the CCS reflects the country's evolving needs and promotes effective cross-sectoral collaboration.

We're grateful to all our partners for their valuable contributions toward shaping a unified vision for a healthier, more resilient Lebanon.

Thanks to all our national stakeholders, UN partners, donors, and civil society for your valuable contributions and commitment to advancing health for all in Lebanon.

Strengthening People-Centered Care: capacity-building workshop with primary health care teams



WHO Lebanon, in close collaboration with the Ministry of Public Health (MoPH), continued its journey to strengthen People-Centered Care (PCC) by holding a two-day capacity-building workshop with core care teams from selected primary health care centers.

This workshop builds on earlier efforts to embed PCC principles into practice.

Over the two days, participants:

- Explored how care plans differ from treatment plans
- Practiced setting SMART goals that reflect what matters most to service users
- Engaged in role plays rooted in real-life experiences.
- It is not just about treatment, it's about people!

Validating Lebanon's NCD surveillance: WHO leads national workshop on STEPwise survey findings



WHO Lebanon convened a validation workshop for the National Household Survey on Noncommunicable Disease Surveillance (NCD STEPwise Survey) in Lebanon.

The workshop, held in collaboration with the Ministry of Public Health and partners, brought together national experts and stakeholders to validate the findings and discuss implications for health policy.

The survey provides up-to-date data on noncommunicable disease risk factors, supporting efforts to strengthen prevention, management, and of surveillance noncommunicable diseases.

Assistive Technology in action: WHO's training for low vision Support in Lebanon funded by Ireland





On the 4th of June, we celebrated World Assistive Technology Day, a moment to highlight the critical role assistive devices play in empowering persons with disabilities and older individuals to live independently, communicate, learn, and participate fully in society. From hearing aids and wheelchairs to screen readers and mobility tools, assistive technology is not a luxury—it is a right and a key enabler of inclusive development, equity, and dignity for all.

Thanks to the generous donations from Ireland, WHO held a face-to-face training session from 2–4 June, on Low Vision Assessment and Rehabilitation in Conflict Settings organized by WHO Lebanon and the Public Health Emergency Operations Center (PHEOC), in collaboration with the WHO Collaborating Centre for Prevention of Blindness and Rehabilitation of Visually Impaired Persons at the Ophthalmic Hospital of Rome, Italy, and in coordination with the Syndicat des Opticiens et Optométristes du Liban. The participants included 24 optometrists & 10 patients. Assistive tech is a right—not a luxury.

WHO Global response



Tobacco control efforts protect 6.1 billion people – WHO's new report

The World Health Organization (WHO) today released its report on the Global Tobacco Epidemic 2025 at the World Conference on Tobacco Control in Dublin, warning that action is needed to maintain and accelerate progress in tobacco control as rising industry interference challenges tobacco policies and control efforts. The report focuses on the six proven WHO MPOWER tobacco control measures to reduce tobacco use, which claims over 7 million lives a year:

Monitoring tobacco use and prevention policies;

Protecting people from tobacco smoke with smoke-free air legislation;

Offering help to quit tobacco use;

Warning about the dangers of tobacco with pack labels and mass media;

Enforcing bans on tobacco advertising, promotion and sponsorship; and

Raising taxes on tobacco.

Since 2007, 155 countries have implemented at least one of the WHO MPOWER tobacco control measures to reduce tobacco use at best-practice level. Today, over 6.1 billion people, three-quarters of the world's population, are protected by at least one such policy, compared to just 1 billion in 2007. Four countries have implemented the full MPOWER package: Brazil, Mauritius, the Netherlands (Kingdom of the), and Türkiye. Seven countries are just one measure away from achieving the full implementation of the MPOWER package, signifying the highest level of tobacco control, including Ethiopia, Ireland, Jordan, Mexico, New Zealand, Slovenia and Spain. Read full article.

WHO Lebanon would like to thank the support of all partners and donors who have and are still contributing generously and directly to the WHO health response. Together health for all by all.

