



LEBANON



Health Emergency Response

Situation update #5

19 - 26 October 2024

****MOPH hotline for the displaced 1787****

Highlights of the week

- **839** injuries and **204** deaths were recorded during the reporting period of 18 – 23 October.
- The death toll continues to rise with attacks targeting key public, civilian and health infrastructure in southern Lebanon, Bekaa Valley and Beirut suburbs.
- On 21 October, an attack targeted an area a few hundred meters from Rafik Hariri University Hospital (RHUH), Lebanon's largest public hospital, resulting in **18** deaths, including **4** children, and **60** injuries. Despite minor damages, the hospital is still fully functioning.
- Recurring attacks on healthcare resulted in reduced bed capacity of key referral hospitals.
- Ongoing distribution of medications and supplies to hospitals to replenish and maintain mass casualty management capacity and ensure continuity of essential services.
- One-day comprehensive training session for MoPH warehouse management teams.
- Cholera preparedness and response plan activated to strengthen surveillance, support water testing laboratories, and build capacity of healthcare system to respond.
- Continuous support to Public Health Emergency Operations Center (PHEOC) to maintain coordination for mass casualty management and EMT deployment.
- Discussions underway to initiate activate the Health Resources and Services Availability Monitoring System (HeRAMS) in Lebanon.
- Expanding healthcare services to reach more shelters for the internally displaced through primary healthcare satellite units (PSUs) and mobile medical units (MMUs).

People in need 2024

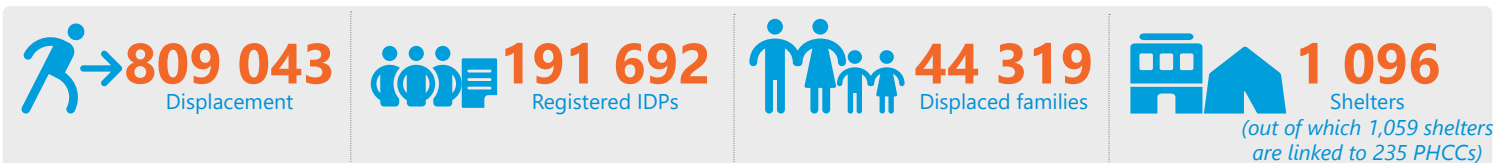


Facts & Figures as of 23 October 2024



Hospital functionality: Out of hospitals in conflict areas (Baalbek, Baabda, Marjeoun, Bint Jbeil & Tyre district)
8 non-functional | 7 semi-functional | 4 infrastructural damage

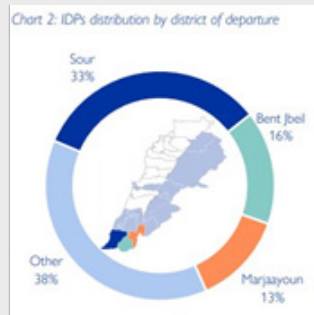
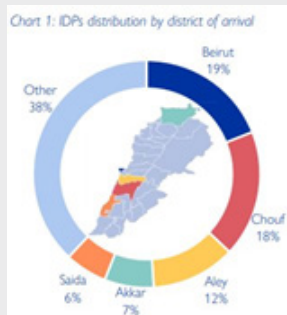
Displacement (Reported by IOM-DTM round 55 as of 24 October 2024 and National Operations Room for Disasters and Crisis Management, 24 October)



Cross over to Syria

- **499 811** people estimated to have crossed from Lebanon to Syria as estimated by the Lebanese General Security as of 24 October 2024.

Attacks on health care (Surveillance System for Attacks on Health Care (SSA) as of 24 Oct 2023)



Source: IOM/DTM 24 October 2024

Continuity of health services for IDPs (Updated as of 24 October 2024)

- 98 out of 207 health centers (PHCCs and dispensaries) closed in conflict-affected areas
- 236 PHCs serving displaced
- 303 PHCs received medications to support IDPs
- 241 MMUs teams
- 67 391 IDPs received consultations in PHCs/MMUs
- 46 187 IDPs receiving chronic medications*

IN RESPONSE

Supplies

- **15** TESK kits delivered to **12** hospitals in Beirut, Keserwan, Aley, Baabda, Matn, Hasbaya and Tripoli during the reporting period.
- **30** NCD kits and **150** glucometer kits distributed to MoPH chronic medications program at YMCA.
- **25** insulin kits delivered to MoPH Central Drug Warehouse for dispatch to PHCCs.
- WHO conducted a one-day comprehensive training session for MoPH warehouse management teams to upskill them in: monitoring stock levels and analyzing inventory, optimizing storage space, and digitalizing supply chain management.

In the pipeline

- **1 500** first aid kits procured locally for direct distribution to shelters.
- **25** out of **75** trauma backpacks for distribution.

Coordination (health sector and PHEOC)

- **236** PHCCs and **241** PSUs providing health services to **734** collective shelters to ensure continuation of health services for IDPs.
- **132** participants (84% female) attended a series of “Do’s and Don’ts” for PSEAH, GBV, and gender in emergencies” sessions conducted by PSEA, GBV, Gender Focal Person for the Health Sector.
- Mapping of in-country contingency stock for cholera response is ongoing in close coordination with MOPH and partners.

Case Management Capacity for trauma care

- Hospitals are overwhelmed by continuously influx of trauma cases.
- Mass trauma management and other critical health services capacities in Bekaa, Baalbek and Nabatiyeh has been diminished due to closure of hospitals and PHCCs.
- WHO Emergency Medical Teams expert deployed to support PHEOC in implementation of WHO EMT tools and methodology and facilitate knowledge transfer of best EMT practices.
- Initial field visit to Turkish Governmental Hospital to trauma care.

Surveillance

- **34** signals of infectious diseases received from IDP shelters, including AWD, food poisoning, HepA, respiratory infections, suspected TB, measles, scabies and lice.
- Epidemiological Surveillance Unit (ESU) initiated investigation and verification of signals and referrals.
- **80%** completeness and timeliness of surveillance indicator-based reporting to ESU from health facilities.
- **28** training sessions targeting NGOs, municipalities, schools and medical centers on early warning and reporting.
- Continued support ESU in the investigation of the confirmed cholera case to explore source of infection and implement containment measures.
- Supporting ESU call centre with health and referral information for the displaced and vulnerable populations. The call center received over **5 120** calls in the past 4 weeks.
- EPI with support from WHO and UNICEF, is launching a national supplementary immunization campaign targeting children 0-59 months with bOPV, and 9 months- 10 years with MMR. The campaign will be conducted in two phases, phase 1 targeting **55 000** internally displaced children residing in shelters.
- Cholera task force chaired by MoPH continues to meet on a weekly basis to discuss ongoing investigation efforts. Work ongoing to train laboratory and hospital staff, and emphasis on the need large-scale community awareness campaigns.

Continuity of Essential Health Services

- **8** hospitals across Lebanon fully evacuated, while **7** hospitals partially evacuated due to insecurity and/or structural damages
- Reduced hospital bed capacity in conflict-affected areas by: 40% in Nabatiyeh Governorate and 24% in Baalback-Hermel Governorate.
- In Nabatieh Governorate, a conflict zone, access to life-saving obstetric care and deliveries is not available.
- **1 059** collective shelters linked to **235** PHCCs within MOPH network either through fixed sites or Primary Health Care satellite units (PSU) to ensure continuity of health services for IDPs.
- **67 391** IDPs received consultations by PSUs linked to PHC network.
- **303** PHC received medications from MoPH to support IDPs.
- **46 187** IDPs received chronic medications including mental health medications.
- The e-mental health application Step-by-Step witnessing an increase in users with **149** news users since the start of the emergency.
- **412** participants received orientation on available mental health services and referrals.
- **1 675** frontliners trained on PFA by the NMHP.
- **49** PHC with specialized mental health services.

Challenges

- Rising attacks on healthcare (health workers, facilities, and ambulances).
- Closure of health facilities and shortage of health workers.
- Patient referral restricted in conflict-affected areas and limited mass casualty capacity at referral hospitals in some areas.
- Large increase in numbers of IDPs with suboptimal shelter conditions increasing the risk of infectious diseases.
- Funding shortage for health sector partners.

Flash appeal

- WHO Lebanon launched a [Flash Appeal](#) to provide comprehensive response to the current and unprecedented health crisis, seeking support in the amount of USD 50 million to scale up trauma care, ensure continuity of essential health services, and prevent disease outbreaks.



For more information please contact

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