

2026 Lebanon Emergency Response

Situation Report #2

March 4, 2026

Project HOPE's team is on the ground supporting internally displaced families who have fled their homes and are now sheltering in overcrowded conditions. The team is working around the clock to deliver basic assistance — including bottled water, bedding supplies, and hygiene kits — and provide urgent health support to ensure the stability of the local health system.

Situation Overview

Lebanon continues to experience an escalation in cross-border hostilities. Initially concentrated in the South, the conflict is increasingly affecting Beirut's southern suburbs, the Beqaa, and other areas previously considered safe. Israeli ground forces have entered southern Lebanon amid renewed fighting with Hezbollah.

Hostilities have been reported nationwide and evacuation warnings were issued for over 80 villages. According to the Lebanese Ministry of Public Health (MoPH), at least 72 people have been killed and approximately 437 injured in recent strikes, with casualty figures expected to rise as the conflict continues. While combat operations remain concentrated in the South, the repercussions for Beirut are significant. The capital is emerging as the political and psychological focal point of the escalation, facing renewed airstrikes, increased internal displacement, economic disruption, and mounting pressure on infrastructure and basic services.

At the time of this report, nearly 84,000 people are displaced and sheltering in public schools, collective centers, and private residences, with that number expected to rise substantially if fighting continues. In total, 399 shelters are open to receive displaced families and 42 shelters are already at capacity.

Health facilities continue to see an influx of trauma cases while striving to maintain essential services for patients with chronic conditions, maternal and child health needs, and other lifesaving care. Several facilities continue to face essential medication, medical supply, and generator fuel shortages. Logistical constraints like road closures, fuel scarcity, communications disruptions, infrastructure damage, and potential airport interruptions are complicating humanitarian access and operational planning.

Before this escalation, Lebanon already faced a protracted economic crisis, weakened public services, and high levels of vulnerability among both Lebanese and refugee populations. The current situation could deepen humanitarian needs and overwhelm local capacity. For Project HOPE, operational risks include exposure to violence, potential sectarian division, the spread of misinformation, and access constraints.

Key Updates

- The recent escalation of hostilities in southern Lebanon, Beirut, the Beqaa, and northern districts has resulted in **72 deaths, 437 injuries, and the displacement of nearly 84,000 individuals.**
- Health facilities in affected governorates are managing an **influx of trauma cases** and need continued support to maintain essential services amid **shortages of essential medications, supplies, and generator fuel.**
- Project HOPE is distributing **water, sanitation, and hygiene supplies and shelter items** to sites housing displaced people in the areas of Saida and the Beqaa.
- Project HOPE has two Emergency Health Pallets with **essential medicines** en route to support hospitals and primary health facilities.
- Project HOPE's team in Lebanon is **preparing to deploy and operate mobile medical units** to provide primary health consultations, basic medications, and triage and referral services.

Project HOPE's Response

Project HOPE's team is on the ground in all governorates, addressing rapidly increasing humanitarian needs and delivering immediate assistance to internally displaced families in close coordination with MoPH, the Ministry of Social Affairs, and sector partners. In line with priorities identified through the Public Health Emergency Operations Center and inter-sector coordination, **Project HOPE is distributing water, sanitation, and hygiene (WASH) supplies and essential items to shelters near Saida and the Beqaa.**

To ensure access to safe drinking water and reduce the risk of waterborne diseases in collective shelters, Project HOPE is distributing **16,800 liters of bottled water**, which will help support the needs of approximately 8,400 individuals. With existing water systems under strain and storage conditions in shelters often inadequate, the provision of bottled water helps safeguard public health and mitigate the spread of diseases.

Recognizing that many displaced families left their homes abruptly — often without personal belongings or the time necessary to prepare for the cold weather conditions — the team is also distributing **250 bedding kits** to improve sleeping conditions and help families protect themselves from the cold. Each kit includes a floor mat, mattress, thermal blanket, and pillow. The team is also distributing **200 hygiene kits** containing basic hygiene items to help support the needs of roughly 200 families. These items will help restore a minimum level of comfort, protection, and dignity for families sleeping in shelters.

Project HOPE has also secured two Emergency Health Pallets (EHPs) that will be donated to health facilities in need. These pallets contain a mix of essential medications that health workers need to continue caring for their patients. **To support health facilities managing increased demand, Project HOPE is actively working to secure and mobilize additional medicines, trauma supplies, and medical consumables** to address emerging gaps and ensure the continuity of essential health services. Project HOPE is also planning to support the activation of mobile units called Primary Health Care Support Units (PSUs), which will provide basic primary care services within shelters and displacement sites, in close coordination with local authorities and sector partners.

Project HOPE has extensive experience delivering lifesaving health and humanitarian assistance in complex emergencies, active conflict settings, and in close coordination with ministries of health and local partners. In Lebanon, Project HOPE has maintained an established, long-term operational presence, working closely with MoPH and national partners to strengthen primary health services, respond to public health emergencies, and support Lebanese and refugee populations in vulnerable positions. These relationships provide Project HOPE with strong contextual knowledge, trusted partnerships, and the operational readiness needed to scale emergency health, mental health, and WASH interventions in response to the current escalation.

Project HOPE is continuing to act in coordination with partners in impacted areas to assess how and when we can best support the health and humanitarian needs of affected communities across the Middle East region, while remaining committed to the humanitarian principles of humanity, neutrality, impartiality, and independence.