



# 2026 Lebanon Emergency Response

## Situation Report #4

March 18, 2026

**Project HOPE is supporting displaced families in South Lebanon, Beirut/Mount Lebanon, and North Lebanon. The team is supporting mobile medical units to provide primary health care services and improve access to essential, lifesaving care. The team has also distributed bedding, water, and hygiene supplies to families in shelters.**

### Situation Overview

Lebanon is experiencing a worsening, severe crisis following the escalation of cross-border hostilities in early March. Evacuation warnings have been issued for over 100 villages and hundreds of airstrikes have hit communities across Lebanon, resulting in civilian casualties, insecurity, large-scale displacement, exacerbated humanitarian needs, and unprecedented strains on already fragile public services and infrastructure.

The situation has deteriorated rapidly, with intensified Israeli airstrikes expanding to include central Beirut and the initiation of ground operations in southern Lebanon. The death toll is now at 968 — including at least 116 children, 67 women, and 38 health workers — and over 2,400 injured, according to the Ministry of Public Health (MoPH).

**Critically, nearly 1 in 5 people in Lebanon have been forced to flee their homes as displacement recently surpassed one million people.** The government has opened 631 shelters for displaced families, which are now housing 133,000 people in overcrowded conditions with poor access to sanitation, hygiene, clean water, and basic supplies. **The World Health Organization reports that there have been 33 attacks on health care in Lebanon since March 2, 2026 and the MoPH reports that five hospitals and 49**

### Key Updates

- The recent escalation of hostilities has resulted in **968 deaths, 2,400 injuries, and the displacement of over 1 million people.**
- Project HOPE has distributed **safe drinking water, hygiene kits, and shelter items** to eight shelters in Beirut/Mount Lebanon and the South, reaching 2,795 individuals.
- Project HOPE has 18 Emergency Health Pallets with **essential medicines** en route to support hospitals and primary health facilities.
- **Project HOPE has activated two mobile medical units**, which are now providing primary health care services to eight shelters across Halba (North Lebanon) and Beirut/Mount Lebanon. If conditions allow, the team plans to establish another unit in Al-Akbiye (South Lebanon).

primary health care centers are closed, with four hospitals partially damaged. Critical infrastructure like health facilities, roads, and bridges have also been damaged. **This dynamic is creating continuous waves of displacement, including from shelters, and severely disrupting essential services like health care, electricity, fuel, and telecommunications.**

## Project HOPE's Response

Project HOPE has established two fully operational mobile medical units (MMUs), which are now delivering primary health care services to displaced families living in shelters and high-displacement areas. The MMU teams are providing outreach consultations, helping people navigate referral systems, and supporting continuity of care for displaced families. To date, the MMU in Halba (North Lebanon) has provided 100 medical consultations and the MMU in Beirut/Mount Lebanon, has provided 418, with both units continuing to deliver services on a regular basis. To further expand access to primary care, which stabilizes communities and helps families cope in times of chaos, Project HOPE is planning to deploy a third MMU in the Al-Akbiye area in South Lebanon, with operations set to begin this week.

Project HOPE has also secured 18 Emergency Health Pallets, which 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 has distributed essential relief items to eight shelters, in coordination with local authorities and partners, to improve living conditions and reduce health and hygiene risks in the most affected locations. Distributions of family hygiene kits, bedding kits, and bottled water previously reached 2,795 individuals and Project HOPE's team in Lebanon stands ready to procure and distribute additional supplies as needs dictate and resources allow.

**Across the region, Project HOPE is scaling up its field presence to support displaced individuals and vulnerable host communities** through health service delivery and essential relief assistance. The safety and well-being of Project HOPE's staff is a top priority. Operations are conducted under strict security protocols, with continuous monitoring of the security situation and implementation of appropriate risk mitigation measures to ensure staff can safely deliver critical assistance to communities in need.

Project HOPE has extensive experience delivering lifesaving health and humanitarian assistance in complex emergencies and active conflict settings. 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. These relationships provide Project HOPE with the contextual knowledge, partnerships, and operational readiness needed to scale emergency health; mental health; and water, sanitation, and hygiene (WASH) interventions in response to the current escalation.

Project HOPE continues 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.

***“The situation is very chaotic. There are still people that don't want to evacuate because there is no place to go. Some people are sleeping [by the sea] at night.”***

***— Malak, a Program Manager with Project HOPE's team in Lebanon***