



Faten, a 36-year-old single mother and her children in their new apartment in Beirut. Their previous home was badly damaged by the Port explosions. The traumatized family received PSS through UNICEF.

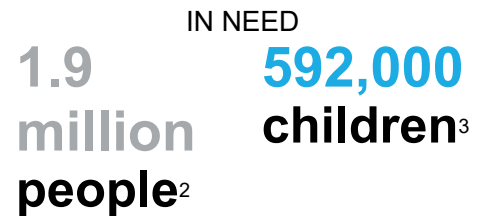
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Humanitarian Action for Children

Lebanon

HIGHLIGHTS

- The multiple crises facing Lebanon – economic collapse, the COVID-19 pandemic, the Beirut port explosion in 2020 and the protracted refugee crisis – have thrust the country into uncertainty. Vulnerabilities have significantly increased among all populations, impacting children’s basic rights and physical and mental well-being. An estimated 1.9 million people (Lebanese and migrants), including 592,000 vulnerable children, are facing multiple deprivations.¹
- UNICEF will prioritize increasing access to basic social services, including safe drinking water, sanitation, primary healthcare, child protection and gender-based violence services, as well as social protection, income-generating opportunities for adolescents and youth and rehabilitation of education facilities. UNICEF will mainstream community participation, gender and inclusion, and protection from sexual exploitation and abuse across its interventions.
- UNICEF requires US\$68.4 million to support vulnerable Lebanese and migrant children and families affected by the economic and financial collapse and the Beirut Port explosions.



KEY PLANNED TARGETS



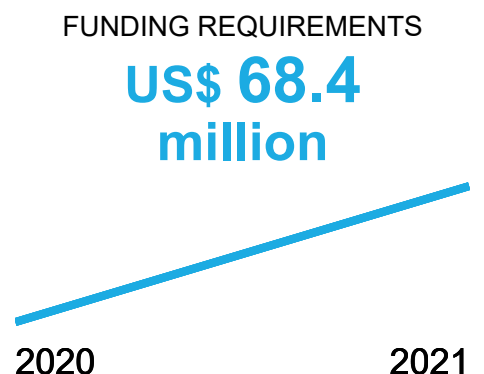
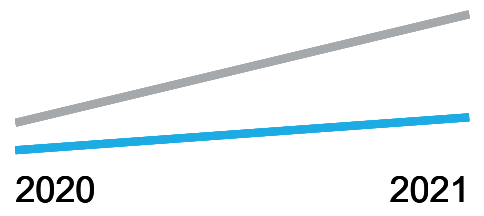
1.1 million people accessing a sufficient quantity of safe water



27,900 children/caregivers accessing mental health and psychosocial support



35,000 households reached with cash transfers across sectors



HUMANITARIAN SITUATION AND NEEDS

Lebanon's financial and economic crisis is one of the top three most severe economic collapses globally since the mid-19th century.⁶ Inflation, layoffs, pay-cuts and currency devaluation, exacerbated by COVID-19 and the Beirut explosion, are threatening the livelihoods and well-being of the most vulnerable, including Lebanese and migrant workers.⁷

Food prices increased 400 per cent between January and December 2020⁸ and the currency devaluation wiped out the value of savings and salaries. Without social assistance, many families will struggle to survive. In March 2021, 78 per cent of the Lebanese population (3 million people) was estimated to be in poverty. Extreme poverty has reached an estimated 36 per cent of the Lebanese population (1.38 million)⁹, with even worse conditions for female-headed households. Without support for these families, children face a heightened risk of malnutrition.

In times of instability and uncertainty, children's physical and mental health are at increased risk due to heightened stress and anxiety. Community and household tensions are also giving rise to sexual and gender-based violence, with women and children particularly affected. Household debt and difficulty purchasing basic items have exposed women to various forms of violence and have increased the risk of harmful coping mechanisms such as child marriage and survival sex. These risks are expected to rise as additional families fall below the extreme poverty line.

Economic deterioration is threatening the delivery of and access to quality basic services, including water, sanitation and hygiene (WASH), health, education and specialized services for disabled children. The already underfunded public sector is overstretched, as increasing numbers of people no longer able to afford private services shift to the public sector. Due to financial constraints faced by water establishments, UNICEF estimates that most water pumping will gradually cease across Lebanon in September 2021. More than four million people are at risk of losing access to safe water. The currency devaluation and increasing fuel prices is also threatening the electricity system, with widespread and lengthening power blackouts.

After an initial successful response to COVID-19, the number of cases skyrocketed, particularly after the Beirut explosion on 4 August 2020, putting additional pressure on the health system.

The economic crisis and COVID-19 are threatening access to learning for children and adolescents and leaving youth unemployed. The port explosion damaged 94 public and 123 private primary schools and 22 public technical and vocational education and training institutions – reducing access to this essential service.¹⁰

SECTOR NEEDS



Nutrition

206,781 children lack access to nutritionally diverse diet¹¹



Water, sanitation and hygiene

1.9 million people lack access to safe water¹²



Child protection, GBViE and PSEA

112,140 children need mental health / psychosocial support^{13,14}



Education

400,000 children out of school due to poverty¹⁵

STORY FROM THE FIELD



"It's important now to look forward to the future, but we can't ignore the past – it makes us who we are," says Marilyn from her new home on July 15, 2021.

While physical needs and safe shelter were one of UNICEF's immediate concerns, so was the psychosocial health of the children and youth impacted by the explosion in Beirut.

[Read more about this story here](#)

Twelve-year-old Marilyn was at home alone with her younger siblings when the port explosion occurred. She was the most traumatized but has made a lot of progress after receiving psychosocial support.

HUMANITARIAN STRATEGY

UNICEF will support the most vulnerable Lebanese and migrant children and contribute to social cohesion through integrated programming targeting affected people and balancing humanitarian and development needs. UNICEF will equip partners and engage communities with information and tools to promote gender-transformative programming; strengthen capacities to address the needs of children with disabilities and to ensure child safeguarding and prevention of sexual exploitation and abuse.

This strategy has been revised to align response activities to the Lebanon Emergency Response Plan 2021-22.¹⁶

UNICEF will continue to lead the WASH, education, child protection and nutrition sectors, and play a key role in the GBV sector and the health response. In light of the rapidly deteriorating situation, UNICEF led the development of inter-agency emergency response plans for nutrition, WASH, education and CP/GBV sectors to support the government's continued provision of public services, addressing increasing needs of vulnerable children and families.

UNICEF will mitigate the impacts of the compound crises on access to water and wastewater services, directly providing fuel in all pumping stations served by Water Establishments and in other areas served by municipalities.^{17,18} UNICEF will connect households to water and wastewater networks; and support municipalities to provide water and wastewater services to marginalized populations.

The child protection programme will promote the well-being and continued protection of women, girls, and boys and their families by preventing and mitigating risks of violence, abuse and exploitation of children and women, and providing vital services, including psychosocial support.

In health and nutrition, UNICEF will encourage healthy nutrition practices for children and routine immunization, engaging caregivers with integrated behavior and social change actions and ensuring effective vaccine management including monitoring, cold chain and waste management.

The social policy programme will expand coverage of emergency social assistance to directly support vulnerable households affected by the economic crisis, particularly those with children. Working with national stakeholders, UNICEF will develop and implement a national social grant programme to address lifecycle vulnerabilities.

The adolescent and youth programme will increase opportunities for meaningful participation, empowerment and income generation through repair or rehabilitation of houses affected by the blast. Education response will focus on reengaging children in learning after disruptions due to COVID-19 and the explosions.

Communication for development will use behavioral and social science evidence to promote healthy, and protective behaviors, community engagement; dissemination of accurate and life-saving information; and ensure the voices and needs of affected populations are heard and inform interventions.

Progress against the latest programme targets is available in the humanitarian situation reports: <https://www.unicef.org/appeals/lebanon/situation-reports>

2021 PROGRAMME TARGETS



Nutrition¹⁹

- **400** children aged 6 to 59 months with severe acute malnutrition admitted for treatment²⁰
- **59,319** primary caregivers of children aged 0 to 23 months receiving infant and young child feeding counselling²¹
- **20,315** children aged 6 to 59 months receiving multiple micronutrient powders



Health

- **100,000** caregivers of children with cancer receive a COVID-19 preventive package
- **300** children with cancer receive psychosocial support
- **500** expanded programme of immunisation points apply effective vaccine management²²



Water, sanitation and hygiene

- **1,091,671** people accessing a sufficient quantity of safe water for drinking, cooking and personal hygiene
- **10,000** people with adequate access to improved wastewater services



Child protection, GBViE and PSEA

- **27,900** children and caregivers accessing mental health and psychosocial support
- **10,000** people with access to safe channels to report sexual exploitation and abuse²³
- **3,000** girls and boys assisted through case management and specialized services
- **9,800** women and girls accessing mobile and safe spaces



Education²⁴

- **100,000** children receiving individual learning materials²⁵
- **8,500** children in areas affected by Beirut explosion have access to rehabilitated schools
- **750** public schools supported with operating costs



Social protection and cash transfers

- **35,000** households reached with humanitarian cash transfers across sectors



C4D, community engagement and AAP²⁶

- **1,500** people reached with messages on access to services
- **35,200** people sharing their concerns and asking questions/clarifications to address their needs through established feedback mechanisms



Adolescents/youth

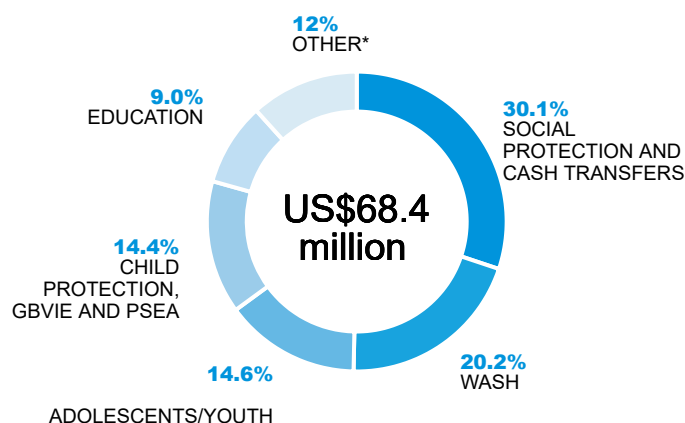
- **287** youth accessing employment or income generation opportunities through rehabilitation and construction and other means
- **221** residential units benefit from minor repair^{27,28}
- **220** residential units benefit from rehabilitation²⁹

FUNDING REQUIREMENTS IN 2021

UNICEF is appealing for US\$68million to respond to the urgent needs of over 1,091,671 people, including 340,060 children, affected by the rapidly deepening economic crisis and the Beirut explosion, including its secondary impacts. This appeal is additional to and complements the humanitarian response to the Syrian refugee crisis, which covers the needs of Syrian refugees and affected Lebanese host communities, as well as COVID-19 related needs.³⁰

This appeal aggregates the needs resulting from the multiple crises in Lebanon. This funding will help cover priority needs, including access to safe drinking water, health, nutrition, education and child protection services; and mitigate the impacts of crises through cash transfers, livelihood support and youth engagement. This support will enable UNICEF to provide specialized services for disabled children, improve gender equality and strengthen prevention of sexual exploitation and abuse. Adequate funding will enable rehabilitation of schools affected by the Beirut explosion, ensuring children's access to education.

UNICEF requires urgent funding to ensure that no child in Lebanon is left behind. Without sufficient and timely funding, UNICEF will be unable to support the national response to Lebanon's continuing crisis, and poor and vulnerable households with children will be left without social assistance and financial support.



*This includes costs from other sectors/interventions : Nutrition (8.4%), Health (2.5%), C4D, community engagement and AAP (<1%).

Appeal sector	Revised 2021 HAC requirement (US\$)
Nutrition ³¹	5,772,244
Health ³²	1,718,512
WASH ³³	13,826,073
Child protection, GBViE and PSEA	9,839,052
Education ³⁴	6,122,390
Social protection and cash transfers ³⁵	20,606,400
C4D, community engagement and AAP ³⁶	515,160
Adolescents/youth	10,000,000
Total	68,399,831

Appeal sector	Original 2021 HAC requirement (US\$)	Revised 2021 HAC requirement (US\$)	Funds available (US\$)	Funding gap (US\$)	2021 funding gap (%)
Nutrition ³¹	2,410,000	5,772,244	-	5,772,244	100.0%
Health ³²	2,650,000	1,718,512	-	1,718,512	100.0%
WASH ³³	39,300,000	13,826,073	-	13,826,073	100.0%
Child protection, GBViE and PSEA	5,000,000	9,839,052	-	9,839,052	100.0%
Education ³⁴	21,968,000	6,122,390	-	6,122,390	100.0%
Social protection and cash transfers ³⁵	10,700,000	20,606,400	-	20,606,400	100.0%
C4D, community engagement and AAP ³⁶	2,000,000	515,160	-	515,160	100.0%
Adolescents/youth	10,000,000	10,000,000	-	10,000,000	100.0%

Who to contact for further information:

Yukie Mokuo
Representative, Lebanon
T + 9611607403
ymokuo@unicef.org

Manuel Fontaine
Director, Office of Emergency Programmes (EMOPS)
T +1 212 326 7163
mfontaine@unicef.org

June Kunugi
Director, Public Partnership Division (PPD)
T +1 212 326 7118
jkunugi@unicef.org

ENDNOTES

1. Emergency Response Plan (ERP) – Lebanon 2021-22, calculated based on the sector with the highest number of people in need and targeted.
2. The revised numbers are based on the interagency Emergency Response Plan (ERP) – Lebanon 2021-22 that was published in August 2021.
3. 31.15% of the 1.9 million people in need in ERP, based on estimates from the Lebanon Interagency group for the number of people under 18 years of age.
4. In order to avoid double-counting, the number is calculated based on provision of access of safe water for drinking, cooking and personal hygiene. The remaining needs are expected to be covered by government partners, other United Nations agencies and non-governmental organizations. UNICEF is committed to needs-based targeting, which means covering the unmet needs of children; and will serve as the provider of last resort where it has cluster coordination responsibilities. The number of people to be reached is based on the intervention with the highest number of people to be targeted as per the the interagency ERP 2021-22 issued in August 2021. The revised number presents an increase from the 654,000 people targeted in the earlier HAC.
5. 31.15% of children amongst the 1,091,671 people accessing a sufficient quantity of safe water for drinking, cooking and personal hygiene. This number of people to be reached is based on WASH sector which has the highest number of people to be targeted as per the the interagency emergency plan issued in August 2021. This represents a decrease from the previously published HAC, as the number of children reached previously included children targeted under the safe schools initiative, which is now subject to a different appeal.
6. World Bank, Lebanon economic monitor, Spring 2021.
7. Syrian refugees are supported through a separate, multi-country Syrian refugee appeal.
8. Lebanon Central Administration of Statistics, February 2021.
9. Lebanon ERP 2021-22.
10. Lebanon Ministry of Education and Higher Education, 2020.
11. Nutrition sector estimates in the ERP 2021-22.
12. ERP 2021-22.
13. Due to space constraints, the following acronyms appear in the appeal: GBViE (gender-based violence in emergencies); PSEA (prevention of sexual exploitation and abuse); C4D (communication for development); and AAP (accountability to affected populations).
14. 31.15% children of the 360,000 people in need, as per the ERP 2021-22.
15. ERP 2021-22.
16. All COVID-19 activities have been mainstreamed into the Syrian Refugee Response HAC.
17. This will meet 100 per cent of the sector target, i.e 1,091,671 people accessing a sufficient quantity of safe water for drinking, cooking and personal hygiene, at a total cost of US\$ 13 million for 11 months (which translates to US\$ 5.9 million for 5 months covered under HAC 2021).
18. Other sector partners will provide 100 per cent of the needed hygiene kits, and will carry out water trucking for out of reach communities and hospitals.
19. The indicators for nutrition have been revised and are now aligned with the inter-agency ERP 2021-22.
20. At ERP planning stage, it was agreed among Nutrition sector partners that UNICEF will cover 40 per cent of the sector needs with the rest of the sector partners covering 60 per cent. With this in mind, 20 per cent of UNICEF target would be covered in the 2021 HAC with the rest going under the 2022 HAC.
21. Ibid.
22. Including the vaccination registry platform (MERA), cold chain, EVM Assessment recommendations, and vaccine waste management
23. The 20,000 target in published HAC was an estimate which was eventually revised during the 2021 annual work planning to take into consideration programme partner feedback and capacity.
24. The strategy for Education has been revised due to COVID-19 education activities being mainstreamed into the multi-country Syrian Refugee Response appeal. These updated indicators are aligned to ERP 2021.
25. UNICEF partially covers the sector targets with the other sector partners covering the remaining 120,000.
26. Communication for development, including accountability to affected populations, is integrated into sectoral responses and interventions.
27. Minor repair consists of minor property damage such as broken glass and doors. These repairs cost up to USD1,500.
28. Youth and adolescents benefit from activities repairing and rehabilitation units damaged in the Beirut Port explosions through gaining meaningful work experience and through the sense of achievement and engagement from supporting their community.
29. Rehabilitation covers more substantial damage than repairs. It focuses on moderate damage to property and common areas and costs between USD4,500 and USD5,000 per property.
30. This appeal has been revised from the US\$94 million published in December 2020 in order to align with the inter-agency Emergency Response Plan 2021-22, and to reflect the mainstreaming of COVID-19 related activities into the multi-country Syria Refugee HAC appeal.
31. At ERP planning stage, it was agreed among Nutrition sector partners that UNICEF will cover 40% of the sector needs with the rest of the sector partners covering 60%. With this in mind, 20% of UNICEF target would be covered in the 2021 HAC with the rest going under the 2022 HAC.
32. This is a decrease in funds requested as activities related to COVID-19 and routine immunisation have been mainstreamed into the multi-country Syrian Refugee Response appeal.
33. This is a decrease in funds requested as activities related to COVID-19 have been mainstreamed into the multi-country Syrian Refugee Response appeal. The Lebanon response appeal includes 12 months of activities related to sanitation and 5 months of activities related to the provision of safe water in the wake of a recent water crisis in Lebanon. Despite the decrease in funding requested, more beneficiaries will be reached through more cost-effective support to Water Establishments to ensure access to safe water for drinking.
34. This is a decrease in funds requested as activities related to COVID-19 have been mainstreamed into the multi-country Syrian Refugee Response appeal.
35. The budget for social protection and cash grants has increased as the initial appeal was based on an estimate, while the revised figures are based on the carefully considered work plan, updated analysis of unit costs (in US\$) and consideration of lessons learned.
36. This is a decrease in funds requested as activities related to COVID-19 have been mainstreamed into the multi-country Syrian Refugee Response appeal. Activities and costs have also been refined during the 2021 annual work planning to take into consideration cost-effective interventions.