



World Food Programme

SAVING LIVES
CHANGING LIVES



WFP LEBANON

COUNTRY BRIEF

April 2026

KEY HIGHLIGHTS

- Demonstrating strong operational agility and within less than 24 hours of mass displacement, WFP activated cash transfers and food assistance in shelters, reaching 400,000 conflict-affected individuals in March, while maintaining its regular programmes to reach in total 893,000 individuals.
- As needs continue to outpace initial planning assumptions, WFP requires immediate, flexible, and front-loaded funding at scale to sustain and expand assistance in a highly fluid operational environment.

IN NUMBERS



893,000 people assisted in March 2026



48%
Male



52%
Female



635 mt food distributed



USD 22.7 M cash transferred



USD 146 M (Apr – Sep 2026) net funding requirements

Photo Caption & Credit: A WFP humanitarian convoy makes its way through a hard-to-reach border village delivering essential humanitarian aid. ©WFP/Khadija Dia

SITUATION OVERVIEW

- The intensity and scale of the conflict in South Lebanon dramatically escalated on 02 March 2026, with large military activities targeting South, Bekaa and the Southern Suburbs of Beirut causing massive displacement, casualties, and widespread destruction.
- As of end of March, almost 136,000 Internally Displaced People were staying in 666 shelters while hundreds of thousands more sought refuge with families and friends, or were staying in informal shelters or in public spaces. In parallel, 175,200 Syrians and 27,400 Lebanese have crossed into Syria through official borders in March, with 48,900 Syrian refugees indicating an intention to return permanently.
- The updated IPC projection for April–August 2026 indicates a sharp deterioration in the food security situation in Lebanon, with 1.24 million people (24 percent of the population) projected to be acute food insecure, up from 17 percent projected up to March. The increase is driven by sustained conflict and displacement, deepening economic contraction, rising food prices, agricultural losses, and reduced humanitarian assistance coverage expected from mid-2026. Despite adequate national food availability, declining access and purchasing power are worsening outcomes across conflict-affected and urban areas.

OPERATIONAL UPDATES

Conflict Emergency Response

- In March, WFP reached 440,000 unique conflict-affected people across Lebanon with food and cash assistance, including 129,600 food-assisted people and 335,000 receiving cash.
- Food assistance was provided to 99,800 internally displaced people in 407 shelters, covering over 75 percent of shelter residents, through 1.6 million hot meals, and thousands of Ready-to-Eat rations, bread, food parcels, and snacks. An additional 29,800 people were assisted outside shelters.
- In coordination with the Ministry of Social Affairs (MoSA), WFP provided emergency cash assistance to 226,000 Lebanese (59,600 households) under the Shock Responsive Social Safety Net (SRSN) and 109,000 Syrian refugees (26,700 households) affected by the conflict.
- In March, the Logistics Cluster, with WFP's support, successfully facilitated four convoys delivering humanitarian aid including WFP's food parcels and bread to 19,000 affected people in hard-to-reach areas.

Assistance for Syrian Refugees

- In March, WFP provided cash assistance to 395,700 Syrian refugees (83,400 households), under its regular cash assistance programme.
- Through six commercial kitchens and two rehabilitated TVET school kitchens, WFP delivered hot and cold meals to 28,000 post-December 2024 arrivals from Syria (7,000 households) in 132 shelters across the North, Akkar, and Baalbek-El Hermel.

Economic Crisis Response Supporting Lebanese

- Following the conflict escalation on March 02, 5,200 Lebanese households across 12 affected districts were temporarily shifted from in-kind food assistance to emergency cash assistance. As a result, only 28,000 vulnerable Lebanese (5,200 households) received in-kind food parcels in March while 12,400 conflict-affected individuals (2,300 households) received cash emergency assistance. An additional 2,900 conflict-affected households are scheduled to receive cash assistance in April.

School Meals for Lebanese and Refugees

- Following nationwide school closures due to the escalation, WFP is adapting its school feeding approach in coordination with the Ministry of Education and Higher Education (MEHE) to support learning continuity through flexible modalities, including in-school meals in safe areas, take-home rations for displaced families, and snack distributions via remote learning hubs, ensuring continued assistance to vulnerable children despite disruptions.
- As public schools gradually reopen in safer areas, WFP has resumed its School Meals Programme in phases starting March 30. Coverage is expected to expand, reaching up to 58,000 students across 150 schools as more institutions resume in-person learning.

Support to Social Protection Programmes for Lebanese

- Besides the activation of SRNS to respond to the needs of conflict affected population, for the second month in a row, WFP, in coordination with MoSA, continued to support the people affected by the building collapses in Tripoli providing cash assistance to almost 1,550 individuals (340 households) to meet urgent needs generated by displacement.
- WFP supported MoSA's digitization efforts during the conflict emergency response to develop a self-registration platform enabling affected households to register and receive cash assistance under the SRSN. In parallel, WFP provided 470 tablets to MoSA's social workers nationwide, equipped with connectivity tools to support SRSN and broader emergency response operations, and delivered 300 visibility vests to MoSA's field team to strengthen field identification during emergency operations.

Accountability to Affected Populations

- In March, WFP's call center received almost 34,800 claims. More than half of the claims (53 percent) were requests for assistance and were predominantly from displaced individuals. Key concerns included requests for cash and food assistance. Protection-related calls made up 4 percent, with 89 percent of those requesting shelter services, mainly from Syrian refugees. All cases were referred to the Department of Disaster Risk Management shelter list.

- WFP provided food assistance to Organizations of Persons with Disabilities (OPDs) and inclusive schools hosting displaced populations. Five accessible shelters accommodated displaced families and received tailored support through hot meals or food parcels. In total, 106 displaced persons with disabilities (PwDs) were assisted across these sites in March 2026.

Nutrition

- In March, WFP nutrition activities were redirected due to the crisis. Fortified bread planned for school meals was shifted to shelters, producing over 38,000 bread bags and reaching around 19,000 beneficiaries across schools and shelters. Distribution of 13.44 MT of fortified date bars was adapted to operational education centers, expanding to 72 sites serving 23,000 children. Trainings were conducted to support rollout starting 6 April, with plans to extend to shelters and additional supplies expected.

Assessment and Monitoring

- In March 2026, WFP conducted extensive monitoring of food assistance delivered through shelters and kitchens supporting displaced populations. Monitoring focused on meal preparation modalities, distribution practices, timeliness, and beneficiary feedback. Hot meals remained the main assistance modality, with kitchens providing pre-packaged meals or on-site cooking depending on shelter capacity. Most meals were consumed immediately, and beneficiary satisfaction remained high, driven by taste, quality, quantity, and adequacy of support. Some food waste and delivery delays were reported.

Advocacy, Communications and Partnerships

- In March, WFP increased advocacy and resource-mobilization efforts to secure urgent, flexible funding to respond to escalating conflict-related needs. Engagement with current and potential donors also focused on maintaining critical support for regular programmes. As needs rapidly exceeded initial planning assumptions, immediate, front-loaded funding at scale is required to sustain and expand assistance in a highly volatile operational context.

Displaced Overnight: One Family Among Thousands



Hanane, displaced for the second time, sits with her daughter in the school shelter where they now live. ©WFP/Marco Frattini.

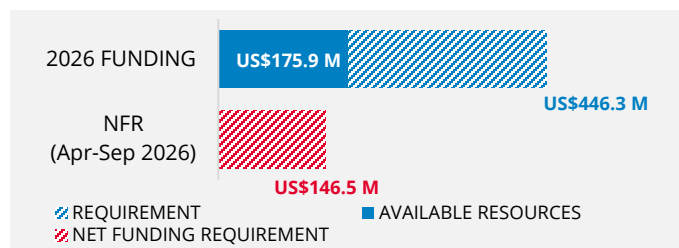
Hanane fled home in Kfarsir, South of Lebanon in the early hours of the morning, with her husband and two daughters. “It was around 2 or 3 AM,” she says. “Like everyone else, we just left, looking for a place to stay.” The journey to Beirut took around six hours, with heavy congestion as families fled across the country. After searching for shelter, they eventually found space in a school in Beirut, Hamra. Today, Hanane and her family share a classroom with around 35 people. Space is limited, privacy is scarce, and basic services are inconsistent. “We only eat one meal,” she says. “The children get hungry... and there is no work, no income”.

Before the escalation, life was stable. Her husband worked as a car electrician, and she took care of their home. “It was a normal life,” she says. “Now, I just hope we go back.” Her daughter Lynn, 10, misses her home, her school, and her friends “I wish the war stops and we all go back,” she says.

While pre-existing vulnerabilities deepen, WFP on top of its regular programmes reaches 400,000 with emergency assistance.

FUNDING OVERVIEW

Country Strategic Plan (2023-2027)



Donors:

Australia, Austria, Canada, Cyprus, European Commission, France, Germany, Ireland, Japan, Luxembourg, Malta, Norway, Poland, Private Donors, Republic of Korea, Russian Federation, Spain, Sweden, Switzerland, UN and other funds, United Arab Emirates, United Kingdom, USA.