



6-month-old Kinda was brought by her mother, Suzanne, to the primary healthcare center supported by UNICEF to get her routine immunization vaccines.

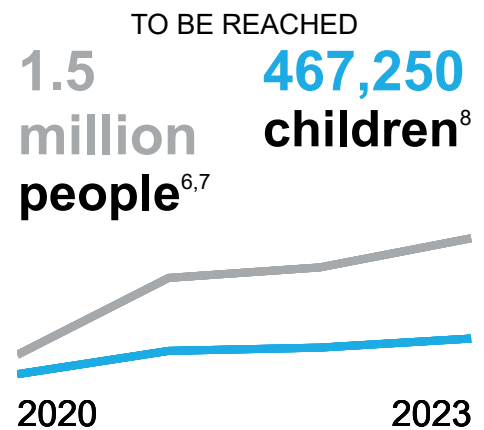
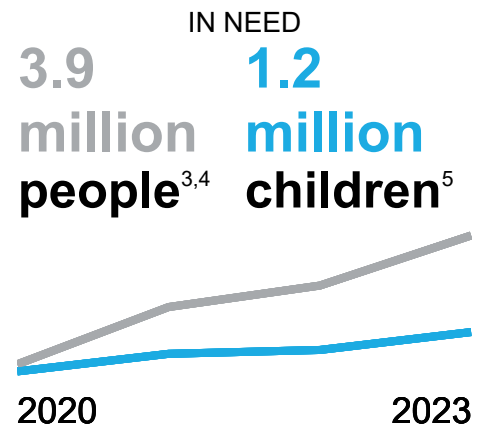
unicef 
for every child

Humanitarian Action for Children

Lebanon

HIGHLIGHTS

- Lebanon's unprecedented economic and financial crisis has pushed individuals and families towards extreme vulnerabilities. An increasing number of people can no longer afford basic commodities and services. The reemergence of cholera in September 2022 is posing an additional risk to vulnerable people, especially children. Approximately 2.1 million vulnerable Lebanese, 1.5 million Syrian refugees, 210,000 Palestinian refugees, and 81,500 migrants are facing multiple deprivations.¹
- UNICEF will prioritize ensuring access to basic social services² to reduce the risk of families resorting to negative coping strategies by addressing urgent humanitarian needs through existing inclusive systems and by incorporating community-based approaches, resilience, gender dimensions and inclusion, and protection from sexual exploitation and abuse across its interventions.
- UNICEF requires US\$81.1 million to support vulnerable populations affected by the complex crises. This includes ensuring 1.5 million people have access to safe water and wastewater management systems, 180,000 children and women have access to primary healthcare, and supporting 16,000 children with mental health and psychosocial support services.



KEY PLANNED TARGETS



180,000
children and women
accessing primary
healthcare



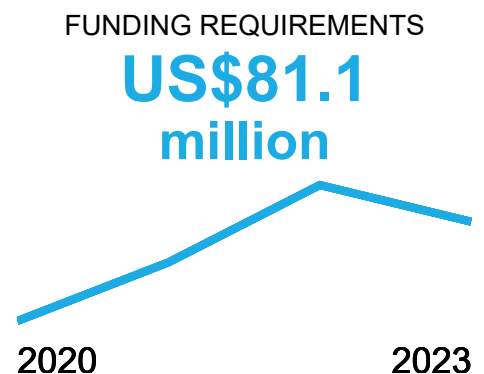
100,000
children screened for
wasting



16,722
children/caregivers
accessing community-
based mental health and
psychosocial support



100
vulnerable public schools
will be provided with solar
panels



HUMANITARIAN SITUATION AND NEEDS

Since 2019, Lebanon has endured a complex economic and financial crisis that has been further compounded by political deadlock and deteriorating social stability and systems. Internal and external shocks such as the cholera outbreak in 2022,⁹ the Beirut Port explosion in 2020, and the COVID-19 pandemic have worsened the crisis as people's capacity to fulfill their needs is diminishing.¹⁰ Inflation and the depreciation of the Lebanese pound have immensely affected people's ability to meet their basic needs due to the rising prices of basic goods. As of February 2023, the annual inflation reached 190 per cent.¹¹ Lebanon also continues to host the largest number of refugees per capita in the world, further stretching an already drained public service system.¹² With the absence of comprehensive long-term development plans and structural reforms, the country was downgraded to a lower middle-income country for the first time in 25 years in July 2022.

These overlapping crises have severely impacted the accessibility and affordability of basic services, thereby exacerbating existing inequalities and increasing protection needs. The rise in food prices has resulted in over one million children, adolescents, and women, mainly pregnant and lactating women, suffering from malnutrition and related developmental and well-being deprivations.¹³ Healthcare is also becoming increasingly unaffordable, with cost listed as the main barrier to accessing health services.¹⁴ Additional barriers include the unavailability of services or difficulty in ensuring operational costs to run health facilities due to electricity and water disruption.¹⁵ WASH services have also been disrupted due to the crises, with almost 2.7 million people across Lebanon facing challenges in accessing safe and sufficient quantities of water for drinking, domestic use, and safe sanitation.¹⁶ The outbreak of cholera in 2022 further demonstrated the fragility of the water infrastructure and the health system in the country, and how it is nearing total collapse.

The crises are also impacting learning, preventing children from accessing schools due to school closures, rising costs and increasing poverty, which has deprioritized education and disrupted learning for children across Lebanon. The situation of adolescents (ages 10-19) and youth (ages 15-24) has also deteriorated, deepening levels of vulnerability and increasing the likelihood that they will engage in informal employment and be exploited. To cope, and because access to social services is limited due to the crises, families have resorted to negative coping strategies like child labour, child marriage, and violent discipline which has exacerbated existing child protection concerns in communities. This has resulted in over one million children in need of prevention and protection response services across Lebanon.¹⁷

SECTOR NEEDS



1 million
people in need of
nutrition assistance¹⁸



1.1 million
children at risk of
rights violations¹⁹



305,000
out of school children



2.7 million
people lack access to
safe water²⁰

STORY FROM THE FIELD



In the middle of summer, not having running water to the house is a nightmare situation for families such as Noura's. Besides having four children of her own, Noura looks after her three grandchildren.

"It was a disaster without water. We couldn't wash anything, clean the house. It was horrible," Noura remembers.

"Even the children couldn't take a bath, I was helping them wash with a water pitcher, it was terrible."

Noura's home was one of more than 1,000 households in the Nahr el Mot region (just north of Lebanon's capital Beirut) which was recently affected by the pump breaking at the nearby borehole. The Beirut and Mount Lebanon Water Establishment, along with the European Union and UNICEF, worked together to get the pump repaired.

[Read more about this story here](#)

Noura sits in her house in Roueiss with her daughter and three grandchildren. She is happy to save the money she was spending on water, "because these days you need the money for essential things".

HUMANITARIAN STRATEGY

In Lebanon, UNICEF will address the humanitarian needs of vulnerable children and young people by sustaining integrated programming and linkages to a longer-term strategy where possible. UNICEF will ensure the impartiality, neutrality and independence of its assistance, strengthen risk management, and balance the delivery of services through public and private institutions and specialized civil society organizations, especially at the decentralized level, in the most equitable, sustainable, and effective way. UNICEF will equip partners and engage communities with information and tools to promote gender-transformative programming and strengthen capacities to address the needs of vulnerable and marginalized children, specifically girls, adolescent girls, and children with disabilities, ensure child safeguarding, prevent sexual exploitation and abuse, and strengthen our accountability to the affected population. As part of the Humanitarian Country Team, UNICEF is leading the WASH, Education, Child Protection, and Nutrition sectors and playing a key role in the Health, social assistance, and GBV sectors.

UNICEF is supporting access to education for vulnerable children across the country. This includes the installation of solar panels to provide sustainable energy solutions of significant benefits for children, teachers, schools, and reducing the operating costs of schools and their carbon footprint.

UNICEF is working with Water Establishments to ensure a minimum operational service through the provision of fuel and the repair and maintenance of water stations to improve the number of people with access to safe drinking water.

UNICEF's nutrition response is guided by the National Nutrition Strategy, which aims to promote equitable and scaled-up nutrition and child development services, optimum diets, and care for all children by utilizing multiple platforms to deliver essential nutrition interventions to prevent all forms of malnutrition. UNICEF's health programme aims to strengthen primary healthcare, immunization support, and disease outbreak preparedness and response.

The child protection programme promotes the well-being of women, girls, and boys by preventing and mitigating risks of violence, abuse, and exploitation and providing vital services, including mental health and psychosocial support for children and caregivers. The adolescent and youth programme will continue to increase opportunities for the youth through combining empowerment and skilling, income generation activities, and social entrepreneurship support addressing gender stereotypes and barriers.

The social policy programme will support the government in implementing the National Social Protection Strategy, strengthening coordination between line ministries, and supporting partners in developing a social registry with sufficient coverage.

Through integrating social and behavioral change principles, UNICEF aims to equip partners and engage communities with transformative interventions and tools that promote participation across sectors, help address humanitarian needs, and promote social cohesion.

UNICEF is working with partners across sectors on strengthening the emergency preparedness systems at the national and local levels, building on needs assessment and rapid gender analysis.

2023 PROGRAMME TARGETS



Health

- **180,000** children vaccinated against measles
- **180,000** children and women accessing primary healthcare in UNICEF-supported facilities
- **100,000** people suffering from acute watery diarrhea provided with oral rehydration solution



Nutrition²¹

- **750** children 6-59 months with severe wasting admitted for treatment
- **100,000** children 6-59 months screened for wasting
- **20,000** primary caregivers of children 0-23 months receiving infant and young child feeding counselling
- **30,000** children 6-59 months receiving micronutrient powder
- **25,000** pregnant women receiving preventative iron supplementation



Child protection, GBViE and PSEA

- **16,722** children, adolescents and caregivers accessing community-based mental health and psychosocial support
- **4,400** women, girls and boys accessing gender-based violence risk mitigation, prevention and/or response interventions
- **10,649** personnel trained to provide people with safe and accessible channels to report sexual exploitation and abuse by personnel who provide assistance to affected populations
- **1,100** children who have received individual case management



Education

- **100** vulnerable public schools will be provided with solar panels



Water, sanitation and hygiene

- **1,500,000** people accessing a sufficient quantity and quality of water for drinking and domestic needs²²



Social protection

- **25,000** vulnerable individuals reached through a strengthened social protection system as part of the National Social Protection Strategy



Cross-sectoral (HCT, SBC, RCCE and AAP)

- **3,500,000** people reached through messaging on prevention and access to services²³
- **15,000** people who participate in engagement actions
- **80,000** people sharing their concerns and asking questions through established feedback mechanisms



Adolescents/youth

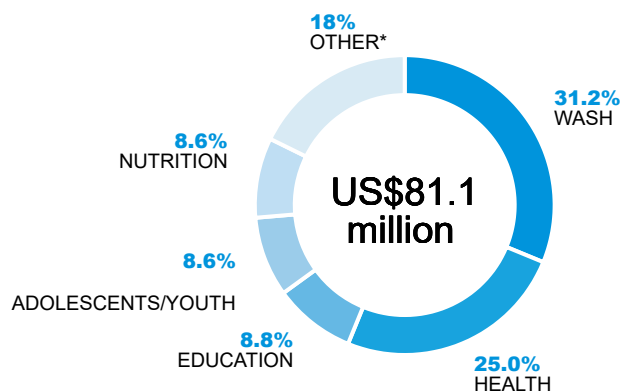
- **5,000** adolescent and youth who participated in skills development programmes for learning, personal empowerment and employability through UNICEF-supported programmes
- **1** development of a system for adolescent and youth participation (volunteer platform)²⁴
- **5,000** adolescent and young girls and boys who participate in or lead civic engagement initiatives through UNICEF-supported programmes

FUNDING REQUIREMENTS IN 2023

UNICEF is appealing for US\$ 81.1 million to respond to the urgent needs of 1.5 million people, including 467,000 children, affected by multiple crises impacting the situation of children in Lebanon. This appeal, aligned with the Lebanon Emergency Response Plan, focuses on covering the needs of the vulnerable Lebanese population. It complements activities in the 2023 HAC appeal for Syrian Refugees that support Syrian refugees in Lebanon.

This funding will help cover priority needs, including access to safe drinking water, critical health and nutrition services, education needs, and child protection services, and mitigate the impacts of crises through social assistance and livelihood support. UNICEF will also provide specialized services for children with disabilities, improve gender equality, and strengthen the prevention of sexual exploitation and abuse mechanisms. Funding is also required to ensure minimum levels of emergency preparedness due to Lebanon's risk profile.

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



*This includes costs from other sectors/interventions : Child protection (5.1%), Palestinian Programme in Lebanon (5.0%), Social protection (4.3%), Cross-sectoral (HCT, SBC, RCCE and AAP) (2.0%), Emergency preparedness (1.4%).

Appeal sector	Revised 2023 HAC requirement (US\$)
Health	20,240,700
Nutrition	7,000,000
Child protection	4,097,280
Education	7,172,000
WASH	25,319,378
Social protection	3,500,000
Cross-sectoral (HCT, SBC, RCCE and AAP)	1,633,300
Adolescents/youth	7,002,000
Palestinian Programme in Lebanon	4,041,000
Emergency preparedness	1,100,000
Total	81,105,658

Appeal sector	Original 2023 HAC requirement (US\$)	Revised 2023 HAC requirement (US\$)	Funds available (US\$)	Funding gap (US\$)	Funding gap (%)
Health	20,240,700	20,240,700	1,565,738	18,674,962	92.3%
Nutrition	6,677,100	7,000,000	851,266	6,148,734	87.8%
Child protection	8,418,600	4,097,280	2,325,372	1,771,908	43.2%
Education	7,172,000	7,172,000	203,099	6,968,901	97.2%
WASH	76,332,000	25,319,378	13,625,805	11,693,573	46.2%
Social protection ²⁵	26,466,750	3,500,000	5,747,583	-2,247,583	0%
Cross-sectoral (HCT, SBC, RCCE and AAP)	1,633,300	1,633,300	564,000	1,069,300	65.5%
Adolescents/youth	1,016,500	7,002,000	231,362	6,770,638	96.7%
Palestinian Programme in Lebanon	4,041,000	4,041,000	112,613	3,928,387	97.2%
Emergency preparedness	1,100,000	1,100,000	164,294	935,706	85.1%
Total	153,097,950	81,105,658	25,391,132	55,714,526	68.7%

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ENDNOTES

1. Lebanon Emergency Response Plan (ERP) 2023
2. Including safe drinking water, education, primary healthcare, social protection, child protection and gender-based violence services, and mental health and psychosocial support.
3. 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.
4. Based on OCHA, Lebanon Emergency Response Plan 2023
5. Children account for 31.15 per cent of the people in need, based on estimates from the Lebanon inter-agency group for the number of people under 18 years of age.
6. In order to avoid double counting, this is based on the number of people accessing a sufficient quantity of safe water for drinking, cooking, and personal hygiene (1.5 million people). This total includes 52 per cent females and 2 per cent people with disabilities.
7. UNICEF is committed to needs-based targeting. This year in Lebanon there was a significant improvement in the joint needs analysis across the humanitarian response framework. However, the response continues to be under two response plans, and therefore, UNICEF targets were also divided and harmonized to avoid any duplication in the number of people to be assisted between the Lebanon humanitarian appeal and the Syrian refugee response in Lebanon, covered in the Syrian Refugees humanitarian appeal.
8. This is 31.15 per cent of the people to be reached, based on estimates from the Lebanon inter-agency group for the number of people under 18 years of age. This total includes 52 per cent girls and 2 per cent children with disabilities. The number of people to be reached is based on the WASH sector, which has the highest number of people to be targeted based on the inter-agency emergency response plan (from OCHA, Revised Emergency Response Plan Lebanon: August 2021-December 2022) and the ongoing inter-agency cholera response plan.
9. Lebanon Emergency Response Plan 2023
10. World Bank Lebanon Economic Monitor (2022) and e KNOMAD/World Bank (2022), Migrant remittance inflows (USD million). Retrieved at: <https://www.knomad.org/data/remittances>
11. Lebanon Emergency Response Plan 2023
12. World Bank Lebanon Economic Monitor (2022) and e KNOMAD/World Bank (2022), Migrant remittance inflows (USD million). Retrieved at: <https://www.knomad.org/data/remittances>
13. Escalating needs in Lebanon | A 2023 overview (<https://reliefweb.int/report/lebanon/escalating-needs-lebanon-2023-overview>)
14. Ibid and VASyR 2022 (<https://ialebanon.unhcr.org/vasyr/#/>)
15. Escalating needs in Lebanon | A 2023 overview (<https://reliefweb.int/report/lebanon/escalating-needs-lebanon-2023-overview>)
16. Ibid.
17. Lebanon Emergency Response Plan 2023 and Lebanon Crisis Response Plan 2023
18. OCHA, Lebanon Emergency Response Plan 2023
19. OCHA, Lebanon Emergency Response Plan 2023
20. Escalating needs in Lebanon. A 2023 overview.
21. Nutrition planning figures were revised to reflect improved planning since the activation of the Nutrition sector across frameworks in December 2022. Although the target has been slightly decreased for some indicators, given the newly added indicator as per the response plan and the office priority for integrated nutrition and ECD, the budget is slightly increased.
22. The access to water target includes the additional cholera response. The target is higher than in the 2022 Humanitarian Action for Children appeal due to the planned emergency support to Water Establishments and wastewater treatment plants.
23. The population targeted is higher than the total number of people/children to be reached because the target includes mass media outreach.
24. The National Youth Engagement and Volunteering Movement Platform is an innovative tool that allows youth to register and be matched to relevant engagement opportunities near them or online. Companies, non-governmental organizations and institutions (partners) can post the engagement and volunteering opportunities they have available for youth on the platform. The National Youth Engagement and Volunteering Movement aims to develop institutionalized mechanisms for youth social and civic engagement and establish a platform to connect youth to one another, as well as to a diverse range of entities, thereby facilitating youth-led action.
25. The social protection funding requirement increased compared with 2022 due to the impact of the economic crisis on people's capacity to meet their basic needs. In 2023, UNICEF is expanding the social protection system to support 40,000 people with UNICEF-funded humanitarian cash transfers.
26. The increase in the WASH funding requirement compared with 2022 is related to the intensifying economic crisis, which has resulted in an energy crisis that has had an impact on the country's water systems. The budget also reflects the increased target for access to safe water that is linked to the cholera response.
27. The social protection funding requirement increased compared with 2022 due to the impact of the economic crisis on people's capacity to meet their basic needs. In 2023, UNICEF is expanding the social protection system to support 40,000 people with UNICEF-funded humanitarian cash transfers.