

SITUATION IN LEBANON

As of 31 March 2026, **over 1,2 million people** have self-registered as displaced, **136,201 people** are staying in **669 collective shelters**, and **1,268 people have been killed** while **3,750 are injured** since the escalation restarted¹. Shelter conditions remain difficult, with reported shortages of bedding, essential relief items, and WASH services. Many displaced people are also staying outside formal shelters in host communities or informal arrangements.

HUMAN INTEREST STORY

When an ADRA Lebanon staff member approached an older man during a distribution at a shelter, he hesitated at first. Then he began to speak.

“I was here in 2006,” he said. “Then again in 2023, in 2024, and now in 2026.”

He said he was from Nabatiyeh in South Lebanon. After the ceasefire, he returned with his family hoping to find something left of the life they had built.

“But everything was rubble,” he said. “We could not even identify where our house had been.”

So they tried again. They rented a home in Dahiyeh, hoping for some stability for their children and grandchildren. But renewed displacement orders forced them to flee once more.

“We are tired,” he said. “Every year, it is a different story.”

His words reflect the reality for families across Lebanon. More than one million people are now displaced, with 136,262 people hosted in 663 collective shelters. Thousands more are living outside formal sites, staying with relatives, in informal shelters, or in public spaces. For many, shelter is crowded, temporary, and uncertain. For others, even that option is out of reach.

What stayed with the ADRA team most was not only his exhaustion, but what he said next:



“For me, I gave up on dreaming for my life. But I still hope for my children. Even if it means staying in this shelter, in these conditions, I would accept that, if they do not have to live the same life.”

¹ [Ministry of Social Affairs](#)



Women and girls continue to face heightened protection risks, especially outside formal shelters, while access to healthcare is shrinking as hospitals and primary healthcare centres struggle to remain operational.

ADRA Lebanon continues to respond by providing essential support in shelters, including hygiene kits, dignity kits, and safe water. But the needs remain urgent: safe shelter, protection, healthcare, and dignity for families facing displacement again and again.

ADRA LEBANON RESPONSE

How ADRA Lebanon is responding based on identified needs.

ADRA Lebanon activated its **National Emergency Management Plan (NEMP)** and conducted rapid needs assessments in shelters on **3 March 2026** to identify response gaps. Based on the findings, ADRA prioritized an initial **WASH response** focused on safe drinking water, water for washing, hygiene kits, dignity kits, and basic bedding support.

ASSISTANCE DELIVERED

- **Dekwaneh (3 March):** 600 bottles of drinking water distributed as immediate support.
- **Bourj Hammoud (8 March):** 60 hygiene kits, 60 dignity kits, 60 water gallons for 60 displaced families.
- **Mtein (9 March):** 152 hygiene kits, 152 dignity kits, 152 water gallons for 152 families.
- **Mousaitbeh (10 March):** 220 hygiene kits, 220 dignity kits, 220 water gallons for 220 families.
- **Fanar (10 March):** 160 blankets, 160 pillows, and 160 mattresses distributed (with Tahaddi).
- **Bourj Hamoud (30 March) - 109 blankets, 109 pillows, and 109 mattresses distributed (supported by Tahaddi).**



CURRENTLY IMPLEMENTING - SUPPORT BEYOND SHELTERS

Reaching displaced families outside formal shelter sites.



ADRA Lebanon is currently implementing a humanitarian response project funded by the Middle East University Church, IDP funds (originally donated by the Gulf region), with a contribution of over US\$20,000. This support reflects the church's decision to channel its humanitarian efforts through ADRA as a professional and trained agency on the ground, while remaining actively engaged through the participation of church members in outreach, support and service delivery.

A dedicated volunteer group has been formed and trained by ADRA to support the response, enabling SDA church members to register and contribute according to their skills, availability, and roles. Members of the MEU Church and other SDA churches in Beirut are participating through volunteering, donating clothing, hygiene items, funds, and other relief supplies, as well as assisting with loading, unloading, and distributing items such as mattresses and blankets.

At the same time, the Adventist Learning Center and Adventist Community Center are directly supporting outreach efforts by helping identify vulnerable families, conducting needs assessments, and collecting information under ADRA's guidance and training. This helps ensure that assistance is properly targeted and that affected families are reached in a coordinated and dignified manner.

Following ADRA Lebanon's initial rapid response, additional opportunities have expanded the response further. New support from partner organizations is enabling the continued distribution of mattresses and blankets, while the church-funded project will support families through vouchers for **food and hygiene** items, especially for households with children and specific needs. Needs assessments are also continuing as new requests for assistance emerge from shelters and host communities.





This collaboration highlights the strength of partnership in times of crisis. By combining professional humanitarian response with community participation and faith-based solidarity, ADRA and its church partners are able to serve affected families more effectively and extend support to those most in need.

If you would like to contribute to these efforts, you can make a donation via the ADRA office in your country, or via the links below:

For **US tax-deductible donations.**
DONATE (<https://www.llusmaa.org/g/adra-lebanon>)

Or any other donation through our website:

DONATE
(<https://donations.adralebanon.org/emergency-2024>)

We extend our heartfelt gratitude to everyone who has contributed so generously.

Your support makes a meaningful difference.

PARTNERSHIPS AND COORDINATION

Working through coordination systems and local partnerships.

As mentioned, ADRA Lebanon is working closely with the Adventist Church as part of its emergency response, while also coordinating through Lebanon's established systems to support people in shelters and avoid duplication of assistance. This includes engagement with Ministry of Social Affairs (MoSA), Disaster Risk Management (DRM), and humanitarian coordination platforms.

At field level, ADRA Lebanon works with partners including Tahaddi, Armenian Relief Cross Lebanon (ARCL), and other local actors to strengthen coverage and address gaps. Through Tahaddi, items such as mattresses, blankets, and pillows are provided, while ADRA and Adventist volunteers support distributions.

ADRA Lebanon also partnered with Adventist School Mousaitbeh (ASM), which serves as a distribution hub for nearby shelters. Assistance is channelled through the school, with church volunteers actively supporting distributions to ensure a coordinated and efficient response.





Why ADRA Lebanon can respond quickly and professionally.

RESPONDING WHILE LIVING THROUGH IT

For the past month, our team at ADRA Lebanon has been responding to the crisis while living through it ourselves. This is not work done from a distance. We are navigating fear, separation, displacement, and uncertainty, while continuing to serve families affected by war. As strikes continue across Lebanon, more than 1.2 million people remain displaced, and needs keep growing by the day.



For Ali Hammoud, this crisis became personal very quickly. He was displaced from his home, and then a strike hit near the place where he had relocated. After that, his wife and son left the country for safety. He stayed behind and continued working. “You lose your comfort, your routine, your stuff, your life,” he said. That is why this response means even more to him now. He knows what it means to be uprooted, and he is grateful to be part of ADRA’s work for displaced families. What still gives him strength is faith, and the hope he sees when people help one another.

Remon Fawzy, our intern accountant, was outside Lebanon when the crisis escalated. But staying away did not feel right. “I didn’t want my team to feel left out without me,” he said. Lebanon has been home to him since childhood, and when he had the chance to stay back, he chose instead to return and stand with us.



Allan Zamer carries the weight of coordinating this response with devotion and deep responsibility. “It’s our job to be there and respond,” he said. He gives himself beyond working hours and beyond what is easy so that help can reach those who need it most. When asked how he manages, his answer was simple and human: he holds on to going home to see his parents safe and to care for the dog waiting for him there.



Gabriel Al Hourany, our MEAL and Accountability Officer, has been helping tirelessly throughout this response, stepping in wherever needed and supporting the team in every way he can. “What broke my heart most,” he shared, “was seeing people turn against one another at a time when the country most needs unity and compassion”. Still, despite that pain, he continues to serve, offering help wherever he can and choosing to remain part of the response.

In Bekaa and Baalbek, the war was not something happening from afar. These were among the areas directly affected by the escalation. For our team in Baalbek, the conflict entered homes, routines, and communities. Some staff were displaced to Beirut and continued working from there. Others remained in Baalbek with their families, even under risk, because moving to safer areas was not financially possible. As schools closed, education activities shifted from in-person to online. We did not stop serving; we found new ways to continue.



Suzan Taleb from our education team in Baalbek remembers how different life looked before the war intensified. There had been celebrations, children’s activities, and ordinary joy. Then suddenly, everything changed. Instead of preparing events for students and families, they found themselves responding to bombing, fear, and loss. For Suzan, the work became deeply personal: listening to people’s tears and stories, and trying to bring some comfort in the middle of crisis.



In Bekaa, Nissren Jbara carried another side of the burden. As a WASH Project Manager working through school-based programming, she saw activities disrupted by school closures and insecurity. But instead of stepping back, she kept looking for ways to respond, investing extra time in identifying opportunities and supporting proposal writing whenever a chance opened to mobilize help.

And in the middle of all this, life continues to speak. Jackline Girgis, from our finance team has welcomed a new baby, a beautiful reminder that even in war, life still arrives. Hope still arrives. The future still calls us forward.



George Fares, our Procurement and Logistics Officer, also supports the security side of this response. He sees how immense the needs are and wishes ADRA had more resources to do more, because so much still needs to be done. But his concern is not only for the response itself. It is also for the team. Every day, he makes the long trip from his hometown to be present with colleagues, “We need to support one another closely, especially for

the expat staff, I feel responsible to make sure they are informed, supported, and never left to feel alone”, he said.

And truly, many locals do ask the expat team: this is our country, and we have to endure whatever happens here, but why are you here? For us, the answer is clear: humanitarian work does not recognize borders, and human value is the same everywhere.

Lovely Grace Yane, our Finance Manager, is one of them. Because of the security restrictions affecting citizens of her home country, the Philippines, leaving Lebanon during this period could mean not being able to return. So she remains. Having also been in Lebanon during the previous escalation in 2024, she entered this season with some experience of what such a crisis demands. “As one month is passing, I am already adjusting to the situation slowly,” she shared. Even so, she remains deeply aware of the security risks and of how widely the conflict is affecting everyone.



Anush Safaryan, our Program Coordinator, also supporting communication in this response, has been observing the sharp contrasts of life across Lebanon during this war. In one corner, a bakery is still open in the morning and people line up for manoushe. In another, families are displaced, hiding in fear, and mourning the loss of someone they love. “How easily we can forget what our neighbor is facing just because it is not our own concern,” she reflects, “and how quickly we ourselves



can appear in that same situation.” Yet in the middle of distress and heartbreak, she sees in herself and in the team the grace and renewed mercy of God every morning (Lamentations 3:21–23). It is beyond human understanding how God provides both the strength and the resources for the calling He has given.

Stephen Cooper, our Country Director, brings decades of humanitarian experience from around the world to guide us through this crisis. Reflecting on the current escalation, he shared, “This time, I see it as much longer and having a huge impact in the lives of all the people in Lebanon.” At the same time, he also highlighted an encouraging part of the response, saying he has “very much appreciated, better collaboration with the church, and church institutions,” as well as the support of volunteers who have come to help respond to humanitarian needs.

Denis Baratov, Regional Director for ADRA MENA and responsible for Regional Emergency Coordination, also speaks from the weight of witnessing this crisis up close. “Each time we visit shelter of displaced families as the responders, we are confronted by the gaps we are unable to fill, and it is deeply frustrating,” he said. Yet what stays with him just as strongly is the resilience of the people ADRA serves. “The Lebanese people we serve continue to show extraordinary dignity and courage,” he shared. “Their strength inspires us and reminds us that even the smallest act of kindness can make a difference and restore hope of those who have lost everything

As you can see, the situation in the country is deeply challenging, and the personal challenges carried by each team member are just as real. Yet we remain here, ready to serve, trusting the calling placed before us.



We remain ready to receive your prayers, your trust, support, and other resources to turn them into timely assistance for those who need it most.

Present, available, and ready to embrace every opportunity to respond, we remain committed to making this response a blessing for affected people in the midst of fear, loss, and uncertainty.



Get ADRA Lebanon Annual Report 2025 [here](#).

FURTHER PLANS AND NEEDS

Priority next steps in the response.

As needs continue to grow, ADRA Lebanon is expanding its response through donor engagement and strong ADRA Network support. Network offices are actively fundraising, and a larger food response is being designed to reach thousands of people in the coming months.

Negotiations are also ongoing with Canadian Foodgrains Bank (CFGB) and other donors. A Polish Aid proposal has been submitted, and a proposal with the Protestant Foundation is in process.

Meanwhile, ADRA Lebanon continues distributions of mattresses, blankets, and pillows with Tahaddi and the Adventist Church. ADRA International’s Emergency Management Unit is also considering deployment of additional emergency professionals to strengthen field operations and help prevent burnout among local staff.

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