

Alert note*South of Lebanon Clashes, 18 March 2024***Completed by:** Jana Nasr – ALF Forum Coordinator**Date completed:** 18 March 2024**Forum:** ACT Lebanon Forum**Type of emergency:** Ongoing hostility and clashes in the Lebanese southern front**Date of emergency (if rapid onset):****Funding Survey**

If the forum indicates a plan to launch an appeal, we request funding members to please fill out this [survey form](#) which will help the **Emergency Steering Committee** assess the funding environment for this response. Please respond to this survey *within 24 hours of Alert publication*.

1. The nature of the emergency

The escalating conflict in Gaza that started on the 7th of October has impacted the whole Middle East region, with cross-border incidents into Lebanon. Daily clashes have been reported over the Blue Line, the demarcation line on Lebanon's southern border since 8th of October.

As conflict at Lebanon's border with Israel continues to escalate, the South of Lebanon has been heavily affected by the ongoing cross border conflict and spill over of the Gaza crisis, with frequent clashes, airstrikes and, military operations leading to widespread destruction and loss of life. The persistent clashes, bombings, destruction of farmlands, incessant drone activity, and low-altitude flights by fighter planes, sometimes breaking the sound barrier, have inflicted significant hardship upon residents of the south. Thousands have lost their homes, possessions, and livelihood assets. The escalation of hostilities has forced thousands of families to flee their homes, seeking safety in neighbouring areas, makeshift shelters within the region, or moving to other areas in Lebanon. The most recent events add to a barrage of crises the Southern population and Lebanon have been facing since 2019. The emergency in South Lebanon is deeply rooted in complex geopolitical dynamics, including regional power struggles and international interventions. Socioeconomic disparities and unequal access to resources exacerbate tensions and contribute to the perpetuation of the crisis. The ongoing clashes are disrupting education, health and livelihoods.

2. The impact and scale of the emergency (please include your source of information)

This is a large-scale emergency. Several Lebanese villages in the South of Lebanon have been targeted, specifically residential buildings in towns like Mais al Jabal, Khiam, and Naqoura. Community infrastructure, including the Saint George Church in Yaroun, have been hit, along with various green spaces such as forests and crucial agricultural lands in Aitaroun and Kfarkela, among other affected villages. Based on the distribution of the internally displaced persons (IDPs) across Lebanon, 88% of IDPs originating from El Nabatieh Governorates and 11% from the South Governorates. In parallel, 43% of IDPs moved to the South, 25% El Nabatieh and 20% in Mount Lebanon governorates. Accordingly, and taking into consideration that any escalation and the fluid nature of the crisis will affect the response, these governorates are considered as priority areas to design our response aiming to reach people who stayed behind in coordination with municipalities and faith leaders, IDPs within the South and Nabatieh and even further to Mount Lebanon¹.

Since the onset of cross-border attacks on October 8, 2023, tensions along the Lebanon southern border have significantly intensified over the past two weeks with increased military activities and intensified






¹ <https://dtm.iom.int/reports/mobility-snapshot-round-28-14-03-2024?close=true>

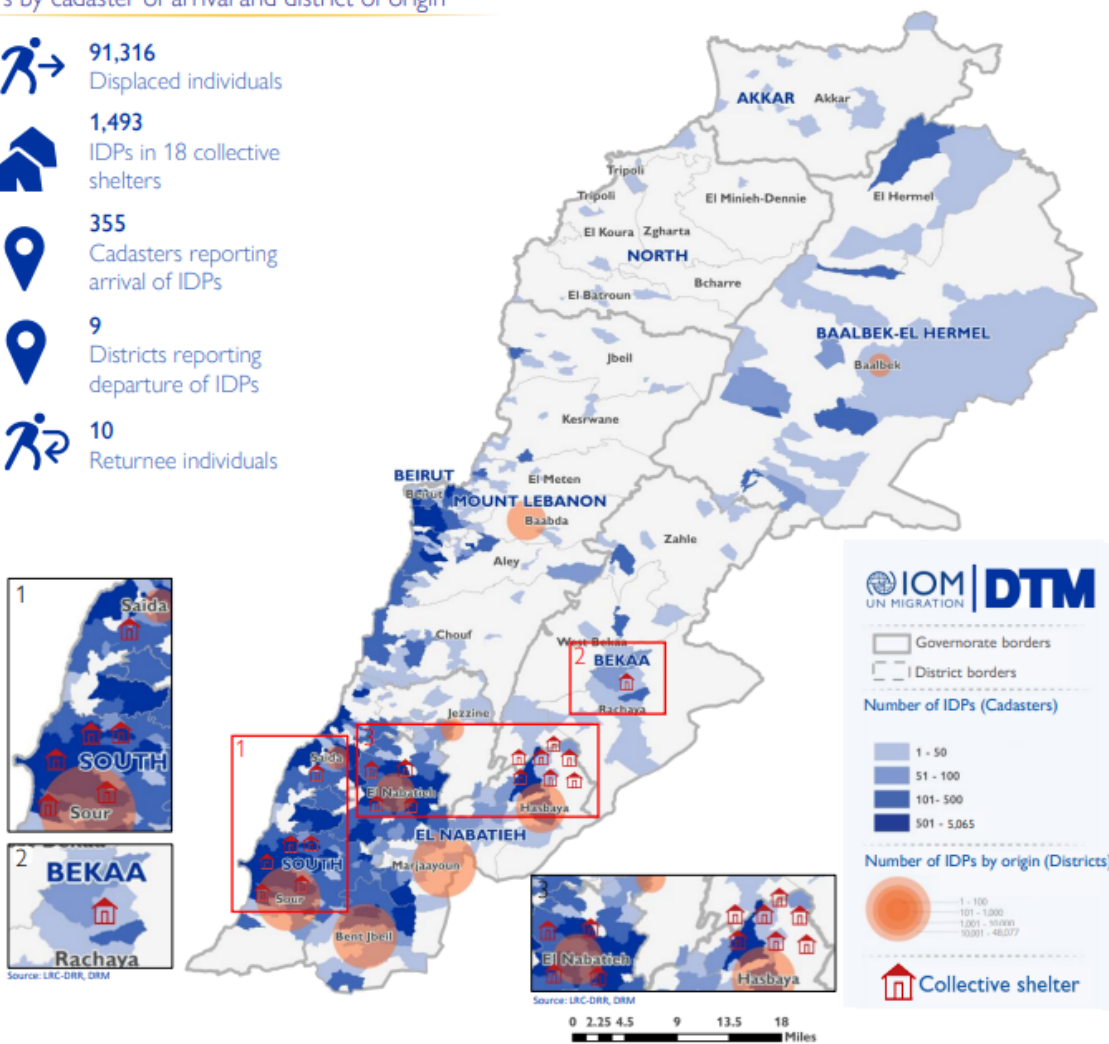
airstrikes, resulting in the highest civilian casualties seen in over five months of cross-border exchanges. As of 12 March, 91,316 individuals (52 percent females) have been displaced from south Lebanon due to the ongoing hostilities along the Blue Line. As of 21 February, the Lebanese Ministry of Public Health (MoPH) has reported a total of 195 killed and 914 people wounded. At least 42 confirmed civilian deaths have been reported, nearly half of them females. The escalation during the last days, specifically the airstrikes against several towns and villages in South Lebanon resulted in the deaths of fourteen civilians, including four children². 37% of IDPs are children (below 18 yrs old), while 33% are female adults and 30% are male adults.

The five months of continuous conflicts and instability impact not only the people who were forced to leave their homes and villages, but also all people and institutions along the blue line. The 60,000 people who stayed in their homes might be the most vulnerable as they did not have the means to move, many of them are elderly who preferred to stay behind rather than to be displaced during the winter and to leave their land and crops hoping that soon they will be able to reach them again.

Latest figures about displacement as per IOM latest published mobility snapshot published on the 14th of February 2024³:

IDPs by cadaster of arrival and district of origin

-  **91,316**
Displaced individuals
-  **1,493**
IDPs in 18 collective shelters
-  **355**
Cadasters reporting arrival of IDPs
-  **9**
Districts reporting departure of IDPs
-  **10**
Returnee individuals



Almost 60,000 civilians are still present in areas impacted by the conflict, where the socio-economic frailty of communities, especially those in difficult-to-access locations dependent on agriculture, has intensified due to the continued hostilities. This has led to an increase in the demand for humanitarian aid. Key needs pinpointed during field visits by OCHA include the delivery of multi-purpose cash assistance (MPCA). Over 50% of the impacted Internally Displaced Persons (IDPs) consist of women including 46,280 women. As the situation deteriorates, the ability of those lacking social protection (refugees, women and girls, PwD) to

² LEBANON: Flash Update # 12-Escalation of hostilities in south Lebanon-as of 21 February 2024

³ <https://dtm.iom.int/reports/mobility-snapshot-round-28-14-03-2024?close=true>

ensure the dignity will decline, increasing dependence on service providers, exposing them to exploitation and abuse⁴. 50 public schools, including eight technical and vocational education and training (TVET) public schools, affecting around 10,000 enrolled children from accessing proper education. Satellite images reveal that fires ignited by shelling, the usage of white phosphorous and flare bombs used by the aggressor have ravaged 1,897 hectares of land in southern Lebanon, estimated to have killed more than 50,000 olive trees⁵. The Food and Agriculture Organization (FAO) reports that 63% of farmers have had difficulty accessing their fields safely, while 26% have had to leave their agricultural lands altogether due to displacement. Moreover, 23% of farmers have seen a reduction in their crop yields. Transportation of agricultural goods also presents a challenge for 85% of farming households. Overall, 72% of farmers have reported a decline in their income⁶.

Escalations are not only affecting the south of Lebanon, but many airstrikes have also hit areas in the Bekaa Valley and even one targeted attack in Beirut, pushing the country into further despair⁷.

3. Local and national capacity

Led by the Prime Minister, the Presidency of the Council of Ministers oversees national preparedness and response efforts, supported by the National Disaster Risk Management (DRM) Unit. At the sub-national level, Governors coordinate with local authorities for preparedness and emergency response. Meanwhile, UN and NGO partners under the leadership of the Humanitarian Coordinator and complementary to the government-led response, continue to accelerate response and preparedness activities. In addition to the Humanitarian Country Team (HCT) contingency plan, HCT is integrating the 3 months emergency response to the controlled escalation at Southern Borders characterized by a gradual intensification of hostilities in the 2024 Lebanon Response Plan. This 'tit for tat' approach involves an increase in firepower, impacting up to 140,000 internally displaced persons (IDPs) and 60,000 individuals residing in conflict areas. Moreover, with the limited available funding, the humanitarian actors continue the provision of life-saving interventions to meet the needs of the displaced people. The support for the people remaining in the conflict areas is very limited due to many challenges including funding, access, and security constraints. While it remains unclear how the political situation will develop and to what extent humanitarian needs will be impacted, the Humanitarian Country Team (HCT) estimates a "most-likely scenario" involving the eventual displacement of over 1,000,000 Internally Displaced Persons (IDPs). Indeed, in the coming months, populations are most likely to arrive from areas along the border, many of which having been impacted by the shelling. With this development, coupled with a government in crisis, it is expected there will be an increase in the number of internally displaced persons (IDPs) who will struggle to meet their basic survival needs.

At the sub-national level, the lead-role of Governors, mayors and heads of the municipal union remains in line with the national Disaster Risk Reduction (DRR) strategy. The South Inter-Sector Working Group (ISWG) supports local government-led coordination, including providing support in gap identification and referrals. The ISWG is also feeding into national contingency planning, as well as coordinating the business continuity of ongoing interventions. The ISWG in the South is working closely with the DRR Unit in the Tyre Union of Municipalities (UoM) and the Disaster Risk Management (DRM) Unit in the Nabatieh Governorate, with a focus on stock prepositioning and identifying/providing needed support for displaced families. In other areas, such as North, Bekaa, and Baalbek, preparedness measures with the respective DRM committees is ongoing.

Sectors' preparedness efforts are actively continuing, and sectors had reviewed and updated advance preparedness actions (APAs), reviewed contingency stocks, developed partner location maps, and contributing to a contingency plan under the leadership of the Humanitarian Country Team. The contingency plan focuses on a large-scale war scenario, with two key planning assumptions: i) 1 million

⁴ IOM DTM, 29 February 2024. Mobility Snapshot Round 26.

⁵ Poidevin, O. L. (2024, January 15). 100 days of conflict in southern lebanon: Key facts. L'Orient Today. <https://today.lorientlejour.com/article/1363529/100-days-of-conflict-in-southern-lebanon-key-facts.html>

⁶ FAO, February 2024. DIEM – Data in Emergencies Monitoring brief, round 6

⁷ Jadah, M. (2024, March 11). Israeli airstrikes target Baalbeck, one civilian killed, several injured: Day 157 of the Gaza War. L'Orient Today. <https://today.lorientlejour.com/article/1371023/jamaa-islamiya-confirms-deaths-of-three-of-its-commanders-in-israeli-strike-on-southern-lebanon-day-157-of-the-gaza-war.html>

individuals displaced by the conflict – to be adjusted to Government planning figures, and ii) a planning period of three months.

The ACT Lebanon Forum was established in 2020 following the new global ACT Alliance strategies and policies (prior Lebanon was part of JSL sub-regional forum). The ACT members in the Forum are committed to the ACT Alliance founding document and its policies as well as to ACT Alliance adherence to international mandatory standards and guiding principles for ACT forums. Since 2020, the forum has been meeting on monthly basis, with a valid MoU and annual plan bringing the forum members (NCA, MECC, DCA, ACT CoS, CA, HEKS/EPER, JCC-DSPR, Diakonia) around common humanitarian and advocacy topics.

National and international organizations of the ALF, including NGOs, UN agencies, and humanitarian actors, are actively engaged in the response efforts. These organizations are providing emergency relief, medical assistance and shelter support to affected populations. Coordination mechanisms, such as coordination forums have been established to ensure effective collaboration and avoid duplication of efforts. The UN cluster system, including working groups, has been activated to facilitate coordination among humanitarian actors in South Lebanon. Cluster leads, such as the UN Office for the Coordination of Humanitarian Affairs (OCHA) and relevant UN agencies, are leading coordination efforts in key sectors such as food security, basic assistance, shelter, health, and protection. Working groups are convening to address specific thematic areas and ensure a comprehensive and coordinated response. DCA is volunteering to represent the INGO forum (Lebanon Humanitarian INGO Forum-LHIF) to facilitate INGO coordination in the south, where NCA is also a member. MECC in parallel is attending the national NGO forum coordination for the south and is engaged in the basic assistance working group. NCA is co-leading the GBV sub-working group in Beirut/Mount Lebanon.

DCA, MECC and NCA have started their response in the South of Lebanon since Q4 2023, providing lifesaving response to affected people covering: basic assistance, food assistance, cash assistance and protection.

4. Key needs and gaps

According to the last flash update, #13, on the 7th of March 2024, UN OCHA identified several major gaps in addressing the needs of the affected population in South Lebanon⁸:

- To date, at least nine water infrastructures have been damaged due to cross-border hostilities, impacting the water supply for over 100,000 residents in the South and Nabatieh governorates.
- For the past two weeks, six PHCs were closed, three of which are situated in the Marjayoun district and three in Bent Jbeil district. Health services are overstretched and under-resourced, leading to inadequate medical care for the affected population. Essential medical supplies, including medications, vaccines, and medical equipment, are in short supply, exacerbating health risks and morbidity rates.
- The socio-economic vulnerability of communities in hard-to-reach areas, where many rely on agriculture, has been worsened by the ongoing conflict increasing the number of people in need of humanitarian assistance. Food insecurity is on the rise, with many families struggling to afford or access an adequate and nutritious diet. Disruption of food supply chains, loss of livelihoods, and high levels of unemployment have contributed to heightened food insecurity and malnutrition rates among vulnerable populations.
- Nearly 60,000 civilians remain in the conflict-affected areas. Many families lack access to safe and dignified housing, that's why they took the decision to stay in the south. These families need support in basic needs assistance, medical assistance, education etc.
- Priorities identified through field visits include urgent health interventions, notably for chronic disease medications, alongside the provision of multi-purpose cash assistance (MPCA) and educational support.
- Operational and security challenges have also led to the closure of approximately 50 public schools, including eight technical and vocational education and training (TVET) public schools, affecting around 10,000 enrolled children. Moreover, about 22 private schools are also closed, impacting another

⁸ <https://www.unocha.org/publications/report/lebanon/lebanon-flash-update-13-escalation-hostilities-south-lebanon-7-march-2024>

10,000 children. These closures are affecting both teachers and students alike. Private Schools are in need of support to be able to continue online teaching especially with the inability to pay the teachers' salaries.

- First aid support and preparedness to the Refugee camps surrounding the south as these camps already host an overwhelming number of refugees and any escalation in conflict as well as IDPs seeking shelter there can highly impact the camps.
- The conflict has also highly affected the mental stability of the residents of Lebanon be it host communities, Refugees, IDPs etc. a need for Mental health support and PSS activities is much needed as the psychological fatigue has hit many residents and displaced personnel of the south. It is necessary to create a safe space for expression and offering basic coping skills, to encourage individuals to seek further mental health services if needed either in the pre-existing refugee camps of the south or the shelters created after the 7th of October for the IDPs.

Local ACT member in Lebanon, JCC-DSPR have conducted an assessment that showcased a significant increase in the number of families seeking refuge in Palestinian camps in Tyre. A considerable portion of these families are not formally registered within the camps.

The lack of adequate protection mechanisms and services exacerbates vulnerabilities and increases the risk of exploitation and abuse.

There are significant protection concerns, including gender-based violence, child protection issues, and risks to the safety and well-being of displaced populations.

Existing gaps in information hinder effective response planning and coordination efforts in South Lebanon. These include:

- Limited data on the needs and vulnerabilities of specific population groups, particularly marginalized and hard-to-reach communities.
- Insufficient information-sharing mechanisms and coordination among humanitarian actors.
- Challenges in accessing accurate and up-to-date information about the evolving situation on the ground, including real-time data on population movements, needs assessments, and response interventions.

Please indicate whether you are considering:

	Indicate your intention with an X below
Rapid Response Fund (<i>intended for small and medium scale emergencies</i>)	
Appeal (<i>intended for large scale emergencies</i>)	X

If you indicate an intention to launch an appeal, the secretariat will activate an Emergency Steering Committee meeting within two working days on receipt of this alert.

Capacity details of forum members with the intention to respond are given below.

ACT Member	Geographical focus	Sectors of expertise	Support required	Estimated Budget range
Norwegian Church Aid (NCA)	National level depending on escalation of the south. As per current context main focus on South, Nabatieh and Beirut/Mount Lebanon governorate. Potential expansion to Bekaa.	WASH, GBV and cash assistance	Financial Support	US\$ 850,000 per year
DanChurchAid (DCA)	Beirut, Mount Lebanon and South Lebanon	Basic Assistance, Food Security, WASH, Explosive Ordnance Risk Education (EORE), Shelter	Financial Support	US\$ 400,000
DSPR- Joint Christian Committee For Social Services in Lebanon (DSPR-JCC)	South Lebanon	Relief	Financial Support	US\$ 300,000 per year
Christian Aid with local partner Najdeh Association <i>Phases 2+3 could include additional partners</i>	Burj al-Shemali Rashidieh and El Buss camp and surrounding gathering areas, located 3 km, 5km and 1.5km away from the city of Tyre in south Lebanon	MPCA Sclr Safe spaces	Financial Support	US\$ 1,000,000
Middle East Council of Churches (MECC)	Beirut/Greater Beirut, Mount Lebanon, Tripoli, Akkar, South Lebanon, Nabatiyye	Health / Nutrition Protection Food Security Hygiene and Dignity kits and vouchers Cash/(MPCA) NFI's Education Livelihoods/ Early recovery	Financial Support	US \$500,000 per year

5. Potential responses

The forum EPRP was drafted by the collective efforts of the forum on the 9th of October 2023, capturing the current situation of the country. The current request of an appeal is in line with the contingency plan put in place by the ALF.

The ALF members have been engaged in the relief work of the south from the initial days after the 7th of October. As part of this appeal, the following requesting members are engaged:

- Christian Aid
- DanChurchAid (DCA)
- DSPR- Joint Christian Committee For Social Services in Lebanon (DSPR- JCC)
- Middle East Council of Churches (MECC)
- Norwegian Church Aid (NCA)

Below is an overview of their response:

Since November **NCA** in partnership with MECC has been responding to the needs of the IDPs and people who stayed in the blue line. With expansion of presence in the south and relying on local staff from the area, the response has been coordinated closely with the DRR, shelter management units and OCHA. The sector activities covered till date:

1. Food kits
2. Incontinence kits, for elderly and children
3. Hygiene kits
4. Mother and Baby kits
5. Cash assistance
6. Protection/GBV

DCA has developed a comprehensive fundraising strategy to provide timely, accurate and participatory emergency humanitarian aid to displaced individuals, leading a robust and comprehensive emergency response:

The ongoing response includes a partnership with the World Food Programme (WFP) and Imam Al Sader Foundation to provide 55,200 hot meals to 21,345 IDPs in collective shelters in Tyre. This is being implemented in collaboration with the DRR cell and the Food Security Working Group.

Within its WASH response, Simultaneously, in partnership with Amel, DCA distributed 1,320 hygiene kits and 15 shelter cleaning kits in Nabatieh Tyre. This targeted response, coordinated with the Wash sector and Disaster Risk Reduction (DRR) and Disaster Risk Management (DRM) cells, specifically aimed at individuals with families residing in abandoned buildings and those seeking refuge with relatives.

Furthermore, DCA is providing multi-purpose cash assistance to assist 80 mine victims and farmers affected by ongoing clashes in the South, aiming to alleviate the disrupt of their livelihoods and support their short-term socio-economic recovery.

Within its niche, DCA is delivering Explosive Ordnance Risk Education (EORE) by distributing leaflets and posters in collective shelters and providing EORE sessions to 150 frontline humanitarian workers deployed in the South. This is being closely coordinated with the Lebanon Mine Action Center (LMAC) and the DRR and DRM cells. Notably, DCA has been delivering EORE since 2007 to mine victims, local communities, municipalities, and schools.

Christian Aid has been working across the whole of Lebanon for over 30 years with three long-term local organizations as partners. Christian Aid's regional Middle East programme focusses on issues of displacement and conflict to tackle the root causes of poverty, address the structural inequalities faced by the most marginalized and respond to sudden onset and protracted crises through a locally led, and community informed approach. Christian Aid has extensive experience delivering community led humanitarian response in conflict and non-conflict settings globally. Christian Aid's humanitarian signature includes cash (MPCA, Cash for Protection, Group Cash Transfers), and survivor and community led response (sclr) with the goal to link response, preparedness, and recovery (LPRR). The learning generated from Christian Aids global programs is used to adapt our work and advocate for more community led, and locally led reform in the humanitarian sector. For this Appeal, CA is planning to respond with long term partner Najdeh Association (hereafter 'Najdeh').

CA and Najdeh have worked in partnership together since 1986. Najdeh operates 29 centres across the five main regions in Lebanon: Beirut, Tripoli, Saida, Tyre and Bekaa. In Southern Lebanon in response to this latest crisis since October 7th Najdeh has carried out the following emergency responses: Providing unconditional Cash distribution to the displaced HH from the southern villages to the Palestinian camps and gatherings in Tyre camps; Delivering therapy sessions for women, girls and children displaced, and for

women in all over the camps to overcome the trauma of Gaza; Providing daily and focused PSS for displaced women, girls and children and Palestinians in the camps to help people to cope with the horrific violence in Gaza.

As for **MECC**, through various partners has been able to intervene in MPCA, Food Security (vouchers and kits), medical Vouchers, Diapers for elderlies, children and PWD, cleaning material for collective shelters blankets, Diesel for collective shelters, Hygiene and dignity kits in and outside shelters NFI's to include bottled water distribution, hot meals in collective shelters.

The appeal will expand over 2 year covering the following phases:

1. Current onset emergency response, providing basic assistance and life saving response to the affected people (cash assistance, protection, WASH, Food security...)
2. Possibly phase 2: escalation of the crisis impacting more than 200,000 people with a geographic coverage beyond South, Nabatieh, Zahrani and Mount Lebanon. This will entail wider response and different modalities as some areas might not be reachable, while new areas will be covered.
3. Post ceasefire: Once the actual cross border clashes stop, members will refocus its response on early recovery, rehabilitation and mine clearance to allow people to access services and to reinstate their income generating activities.

Below is an overview of what the **ALF members** will be implementing during phase one and phase two of the requested appeal:

On the short term, until the cessation of hostilities **NCA** has prioritized the following response based on needs and existing experience and sector focus:

1. Access basic assistance and lifesaving activities to preserve their well-being and to ensure their protection.
2. Access to protection services and PSS
3. WASH response needs to be taken into consideration especially in the collective shelters and with the hosted families, as these shelters are not equipped for such large number of affected people. Focus on incontinence and diapers for elderly and PWDs are identified as priority needs.
4. Based on NCA experience, cash assistance has proven so far to be effective with 100% of beneficiaries from NCA and partners MPCA projects still able to access their instalments.
5. Food Security: food assistance in the form of kits, vouchers or cash assistance.

Noting that NCA is working with national partners, mainly for phase 1 MECC has been a main partner for the response in South Lebanon. For the purpose of this alert, NCA will continue providing cash assistance and GBV response with MECC. While NCA will implement directly WASH response. Based on the level of the funding and the escalation of the hostilities, NCA will consider other existing and assessed partner.

On the longer term, NCA is aiming to mainly focus on the following:

1. Rehabilitation and support of small businesses: to allow people to return to their areas by restoring their source of income. Small businesses can include agriculture related income. Solar water pumping will also be considered. CVA for SMEs
2. Rehabilitation of institutions: mainly supporting education and health institutions to rehabilitate WASH structure, including minor rehabilitation of the centres and installation of solar power to reduce the running cost of these institutions and to provide them with a reliable source of power.
3. WASH response: longer term WASH response with rehabilitation of the water infrastructure to ensure reliable access to water and sanitation. Solid waste management will also be considered with replication of NCA similar initiatives in other areas of the country.

4. Protection: NCA will support national actors to provide timely and reliable protection services with a main focus on GBV covering women and girls and engaging men and boys. Local duty bearers such as municipalities, grassroots organizations and faith actors will be engaged in the response for better acceptance and sustainability. NCA will support MECC to establish and run a WGSS in the south with comprehensive GBV activities from PSS, to awareness, case management and prevention.

DCA aims to deploy the following emergency response:

1. Financial Service Provider (FSP) assessment to inform subsequent Cash Assistance: Financial Service Providers (FSPs) are crucial in executing numerous cash and voucher assistance (CVA) programs, as they enable the distribution of payments. The FSP assessment is designed to allow DCA to evaluate the capacities and background of FSPs across multiple locations. It will also inform DCA of the preferences of beneficiaries regarding FSPs and their methods of delivery. Additionally, it aims to identify the risks, obstacles, and possible hindrances to inclusion that accompany each option.
2. Distribution of a one-off Multi-Purpose Cash Assistance (MPCA) to 1200 IDPs across the blue line: The ongoing hostilities have caused farmers extensively damaged land, which has compromised their livelihoods and agricultural productivity. As such, this activity aims to support mine victims and farmers affected by shelling to address their immediate food needs due to the loss or damage of their land, leading to a decrease in income. The MPCA* will provide support to 750 IDPs situated across the Blue Line in the amount of 100 USD per beneficiary to address their immediate needs. The financial support will be facilitated through Money Transfer Agencies (MTAs), such as BoB Finance, and OMT. Framework agreements between DCA and MTAs have been established to facilitate the cash transfers.
3. Provision of food parcels to 2,000 displaced HHs: DCA will distribute nutritious food parcels** that will meet 73% of the dietary requirements of 2,000 displaced HHs sheltering in the districts of Saida, Tyre, Nabatieh and Baabda. The provision of food parcels will be provided to houses hosting IDPs with cooking facilities and will ensure displaced individuals have access to a minimum and balanced nutritional food intake. Upon procurement, food parcels will be stored in a warehouse. The food parcel composition is expected to feed 5 members in a HH for a duration of one month. As such, the food parcel distribution is expected to directly reach 10,000 IDPs. For pregnant and lactating women (PLW), DCA will promote recommended breastfeeding and complementary feeding practices.
4. Delivery of EORE sessions to humanitarian frontliners: At the onset of this activity, DCA will outreach to CSOs operating in the emergency response context. The purpose of the Explosive Ordnance Risk Education (EORE) sessions is to disseminate safety messages regarding the risks of explosive ordnance and to promote safe and informed behavior among frontliners working for humanitarian organizations deployed in the field. Consequently, humanitarian frontliners will be better equipped to refer to mine action assistance and minimize the risks of injury or death in the event of contact with explosive remnants of war.
5. Delivery of EORE sessions to 400 IDPs: DCA will outreach to IDPs being hosted in collective shelters in Tyre and Saida. This will be done in close coordination with the DRR and DRM cells. The purpose of the EORE sessions is to disseminate safety message on the risks of Explosive Ordnance (EO) and to promote safe and informed behavior to persons affected by displacement so they are able to refer to mine action assistance and minimize the occurrence of accidents.

For **CA** and their partner Najdeh:

For this Alert as part of Phase 1, 6 months of a 12–18-month response, CA and Najdeh propose multipurpose cash transfer assistance (MPCA) for some of most vulnerable households (HH). An estimation of 400 HH is given for budgeting purposes; the total number of targeted households will be finalized based on a rapid vulnerability/needs assessment of the three targeted camps. Cash transfers are preferred over in-kind assistance as they give greater flexibility in meeting specific needs and allow access to a more diverse range of food, medicine, and other necessities, which may not be provided through in-

kind distributions. To that end the MPCA will enable households to cover basic essentials and meet their basic needs in a dignified way. Grants will reduce the reliance on negative coping strategies among the most vulnerable to access food and other survival necessities. In close coordination with other ACT Appeal members, CA and Najdeh will provide MPCA in line with the CaLP and CWG guidance.

Following this initial response, under Phase 2 Option 1: should the crisis escalate further, CA could potentially extend our MPCA provision for up to 6 months, depending on the situation.

Option 2: Should the crisis de-escalate, CA would then work with partners to move to a Survivor and Community Led Response (SCLR) approach utilising group cash transfers to help displaced communities move away from aid dependency, establishing their own networks and plans and delivering what they themselves define as the most important work. Geographical locations for Phase 2 would remain the same in either scenario.

CA will look to support more of a focus on an early recovery as a potential phase 3, working with a partners to: establish community groups through the sclr model, if it were not feasible in phase 2, or build on the community social cohesion developed through sclr; Provide safe spaces for people to deal with the impact of conflict and displacement including through psychosocial support, remedial education and art therapy.

For **DSPR- JCC**:

JCC will be implementing the activities of this appeal in the three Palestinian camps in around Tyre: Al Rashidiya, Burj Shemali, and Al Buss camps.

1. For the internally displaced persons (IDPs) who left their houses in the South of Lebanon and sought refuge in the Palestinian camps, JCC is planning to provide through this appeal a cash assistance of \$200 per family, twice over, to 100 families. This initiative aims to alleviate financial strain amidst challenging circumstances. The cash donation will be distributed to the IDPs in the training hall, located in JCC farm, in Al Maachouq, near to Burj Al Chemali camp. JCC will coordinate with UNRWA and local authorities to avoid any duplication of cash assistance.
2. In response to these pressing needs, the JCC is taking proactive steps to address the mental health crisis. Collaborating with local NGOs such as Diyarouna and Al Jana (ARCPA) by initiating Psycho-Social Support (PSS) sessions for 300 children from the camps. These sessions will provide a safe space for children to express their emotions, learn coping mechanisms, and engage in therapeutic activities such as play therapy and art therapy, fostering resilience and healing within the community.
3. In response to the looming threat of military conflict in the South, the JCC will conduct comprehensive first aid training sessions tailored for the unique circumstances of armed conflict. The training will cover Basic Life Support, Wound Management, and treatment for injuries, providing participants with the knowledge and a first-aid kit to respond effectively to medical emergencies.
4. Psychological First Aid (PFA) training is essential alongside physical first aid, especially in conflict zones where emotional and psychological well-being is often overlooked. PFA equips individuals with vital coping mechanisms to navigate stress, anxiety, and trauma resulting from armed conflict. Al Jana (ARCPA) organization will provide this training for 300 men and women from the camps: listening, providing reassurance, helping people connect with their coping mechanisms, offering practical assistance... After each training, the participants will receive a manual and brochure outlining key principles and techniques of psychological first aid.

MECC, in line with the response strategy developed in the EPRP, is planning to respond as follow:

Geographical Areas: Targeting the most affected areas in South Lebanon and with a focus on communities staying in the conflict areas, with high levels of displacement and vulnerability: Bent Jbeil, Marjeyoun, Hasbaya, Nabatyeh, Zahrani and Tyr districts. MECC will also address the needs of IDP's in Mount Lebanon which currently amount to 21% of total displaced.

1. Provide immediate lifesaving multi sectoral emergency support through unconditional cash for the economically affected population, in particular during Ramadan so Family can have the opportunity to buy whatever needed.

2. Provide immediate educational support for the economically affected teachers and School students in the south enabling them remain in school and continue education, this could be done by providing cash contribution to teachers' fees or students tuitions fees.
3. Provide fuel and management support to collective shelters in Tyr and Zahrani areas.
4. Provide protection awareness sessions and Hygiene kits targeting affected women.
5. Food Security (vouchers and kits)
6. medical Vouchers
7. Diapers for elderlies, children and PWD
8. Cleaning material for collective shelters
9. Bedding
10. Diesel for collective shelters

In regard to phase two and based on the needs and the assessments done, MECC is planning to operate in:

1. Rehabilitation and support of small businesses: to allow people to return to their areas by restoring their source of income. Small businesses can include any type of affected types (agricultural, mini-markets, farms, etc...) which will be supported with equipment and/or maintenance with follow up and adequate support.
2. Education/Tuition fees: supporting students return to school and avoiding a lost generation.

Notes: ALF members will plan their activities:

* In line with the Basic Assistance guidelines for multi-purpose cash assistance (MPCA)

** In line with the FSAS 2020 guidance note on food parcels composition