Lebanon Cash Working Group Situation Report #4

Reporting period: 1 to 31 July 2026

905,386
People reached with Emergency MPCA, at least once since March 2026

66,701
People Reached with NDA Emergency Top-Ups

3,017
Families reached with one-off Emergency Cash for Shelter

13,747
Cases Reached with Emergency Protection Cash

Situation Overview

During July, humanitarian needs in Lebanon remained substantial despite continued population returns and a gradual decline in overall displacement. As of 29 July, an estimated 821,077 people had returned to their areas of origin, while 360,132 people remained displaced across the country, including approximately 27,200 individuals residing in collective shelters. Although displacement continued to decrease, returns remained uneven and often fragile, constrained by damaged housing, insecurity, unexploded ordnance, movement restrictions, disrupted livelihoods and limited access to basic services in conflict-affected areas. Many households continued to face difficult choices between remaining displaced and returning to locations where recovery conditions remained inadequate.

Humanitarian actors increasingly adapted their response to a changing context characterized by returns, residual displacement and localized secondary displacement. Communities in affected areas consistently identified cash assistance, restoration of basic services, health care, livelihoods support and shelter rehabilitation among their highest priorities. At the same time, rising living costs, economic hardship and funding constraints continued to erode household coping capacities and increase reliance on humanitarian assistance. Humanitarian partners also reported growing protection concerns, particularly among women, children, older persons and persons with disabilities, as prolonged displacement, limited livelihood opportunities and inadequate housing conditions continued to heighten vulnerabilities.

Against this backdrop, the Cash Working Group (LCWG) continued to support the transition from blanket emergency assistance towards more targeted interventions under the Shock Responsive Safety Net (SRSN), while advancing planning for the post-Flash Appeal period through the 2026 LRP Addendum. Efforts during July focused on strengthening targeting methodologies, refining analysis of displacement-related costs, improving reporting and information management, and promoting complementarity between MPCA, sectoral cash assistance, social protection and livelihoods programming to ensure limited resources are directed towards households with the greatest needs.

Emergency Response Highlights

During July, the LCWG continued supporting the transition from blanket emergency assistance to a more targeted emergency MPCA response, reflecting both funding constraints and evolving displacement patterns. Work focused on operationalizing the agreed SRSN targeting methodology, which will guide subsequent assistance rounds for conflict-affected Lebanese households, while planning for the continuation of emergency MPCA under the LRP Addendum beyond the end of the Flash Appeal.

Across the humanitarian response, to date, cash and voucher assistance delivered are as follows:

To date, emergency cash assistance delivered across the response includes:

- **905,386** people received at least one month of Emergency Multipurpose Assistance (MPCA)
- **15,790** families including a person with a disability, representing approximately 66,471 individuals, including 23,265 children, had received a one-time emergency cash transfer as part of the shock responsive National Disability Allowance.
- **13,747** cases received Emergency Protection Cash Assistance.
- **7,937** people were reached with unrestricted cash assistance to meet food needs.
- **3,017** displaced families received a one-off emergency shelter cash grant.
- **1,063** Pregnant & Breastfeeding Women and Children (in 967 families) received cash for nutrition assistance.

LRP Regular Programmes

700,475

People reached with recurrent MPCA across all population groups.

USD 61.2 million

disbursed since January 2026

8 partners

Organizations

delivering regular MPCA

39,836 people receiving the National Disability Allowance

across all population groups

Programme Quality and Harmonization

During July, the LCWG co-chairs reviewed 26 cash and voucher assistance (CVA) proposals under the Lebanon Humanitarian Fund (LHF) Third Reserve Allocation and provided technical recommendations to strengthen cash programming quality and harmonization across sectors.

Key recommendations included improving the justification of transfer values through stronger market analysis and documented methodologies, harmonizing post-distribution monitoring and reporting approaches, strengthening complementarity and deduplication with MPCA and social protection programmes, and increasing transparency around Financial Service Provider (FSP) costs.

The LCWG also reviewed the Shelter Sector's Cash for Rent guidance, recommending stronger vulnerability-based targeting, the use of evidence-based transfer values, consideration of multi-month disbursements to improve efficiency and scalability, and stronger linkages with livelihoods and self-reliance programmes to help households sustain rental costs beyond the period of humanitarian assistance.

Markets

Discussions at the July LCWG highlighted that markets continue to support cash-based responses, although households remain under increasing economic pressure. While monthly energy inflation eased during June following declines in global prices, energy costs remained significantly above pre-conflict levels and continued to affect household purchasing power. The Survival Minimum Expenditure Basket (SMEB) remained at approximately USD 560 for a family of five, while the Minimum Expenditure Basket (MEB) stood at around USD 720, underscoring the persistent gap between household needs and available resources. Cooking gas and electricity generation costs continued to be key drivers of household expenditure, contributing to ongoing affordability challenges for both displaced and conflict-affected families.

National Disability Allowance

UNICEF continued to support the Ministry of Social Affairs to implement and expand the National Disability Allowance (NDA), Lebanon's flagship disability inclusive social protection programme. In January 2026, the programme expanded to include non-Lebanese children with disabilities, followed in May by the inclusion of non-Lebanese persons aged 65 years and above. This aligned age-based eligibility across all existing population cohorts. By the end of July 2026, 39,836 persons with disabilities, including 16 per cent who are non-Lebanese, were receiving monthly cash assistance to help meet disability related costs and improve access to essential services.

Following the escalation of the conflict in March 2026, the Ministry of Social Affairs with the support of UNICEF and ILO activated the NDA shock responsive component (following the practice from the 2024-2025 response) through existing structures and delivery chain. By the end of June, 15,790 families including a person with a disability, representing approximately 78,950 individuals, including 23,265 children, had received a one-time emergency cash transfer of USD 100.

Assistance was delivered over four rounds through a progressive age-based expansion, ultimately covering all beneficiaries aged 0 to 32 who are enrolled in the regular programme and residing in conflict affected areas. The next priority is to extend emergency assistance to older persons enrolled in the programme and to persons with disabilities in affected areas who are not currently covered by the eligible age groups. The response demonstrated the capacity of national social protection systems to scale up during crises and complemented the Government led Shock Responsive Social Safety Net (SRSN).