

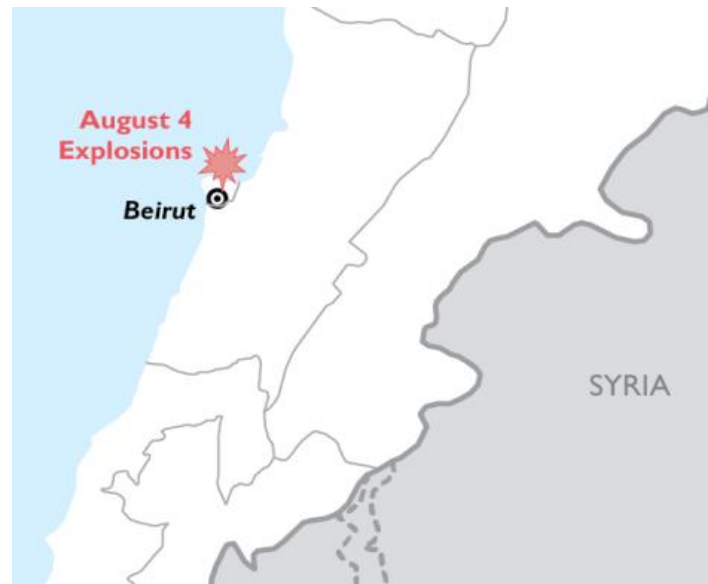
Lebanon – Explosions

SEPTEMBER 30, 2020

SITUATION AT A GLANCE

180	6,500	77,735	171,600	11,760
Deaths Resulting from August 4 Explosions in Beirut	People Injured by August 4 Explosions in Beirut	Number of People Targeted for USAID/BHA Food Assistance	Number of People Affected by Damaged Shelters	Number of People Targeted for USAID/BHA Shelter Assistance
GoL – Aug. 2020	UN – Aug. 2020	USAID – Aug. 2020	UN – Aug. 2020	UN – Aug. 2020

- USAID/BHA supports Caritas, LRC, LWR, and WFP to provide food, health, shelter, and WASH assistance to populations affected by the August 4 explosions.
- State/PRM provides \$12.1 million to existing partners to support explosion response activities.
- Relief organizations distribute food parcels to 44,000 explosion-affected households.



TOTAL U.S. GOVERNMENT HUMANITARIAN FUNDING	USAID/BHA ^{1,2}	\$15,308,013
	State/PRM ³	\$12,100,000
	DoD ⁴	\$3,794,200
For the Lebanon Explosions Response in FY 2020		
	Total	\$31,202,213⁵

¹ USAID's Bureau for Humanitarian Assistance (USAID/BHA).

² USAID/BHA assistance includes former Office of U.S. Foreign Disaster Assistance non-food humanitarian activities and former Office of Food for Peace emergency food assistance operations.

³ U.S. Department of State's Bureau of Population, Refugees, and Migration (State/PRM)

⁴ U.S. Department of Defense (DoD)

⁵ This total does not include approximately \$54.9 million in supplemental funding through USAID/BHA and State/PRM for coronavirus disease (COVID-19) preparedness and response activities or USAID/BHA and State/PRM funding for refugee response activities in Lebanon. Existing State/PRM partners have reoriented activities to respond to the needs of individuals affected by the August 4 explosions.

TIMELINE

Aug. 4, 2020

Concurrent explosions occur at a warehouse near Lebanon's Port of Beirut.

Aug. 5, 2020

U.S. Ambassador to Lebanon Dorothy Shea declares a disaster in Lebanon due to the humanitarian impacts of the explosions.

Aug. 7, 2020

USAID deploys a Disaster Assistance Response Team (DART) and activates a Washington, D.C.-based Response Management Team (RMT). USAID/BHA also announces \$15.1 million for emergency response activities in Beirut.

August 9, 2020

Urban search and rescue operations cease and response efforts transition to providing immediate humanitarian assistance to those affected by the explosions, per Government of Lebanon request.

Aug. 10, 2020

Acting USAID Administrator John Barsa arrives in Beirut to highlight USG commitment to addressing the needs of the Lebanese people.

Aug. 14, 2020

UN releases flash appeal for humanitarian and reconstruction support.

Aug. 21, 2020

USAID demobilizes DART and RMT as response efforts shift to reconstruction.

KEY DEVELOPMENTS

State/PRM Provides \$12.1 Million to Support August 4 Explosions Response Efforts

As of September 30, State/PRM had provided approximately \$12.1 million to support existing partners in their efforts to continue responding to the August 4 explosions. The funds will support the International Committee of the Red Cross (ICRC), the Office of the UN High Commissioner for Refugees (UNHCR), and the World Rehabilitation Fund (WRF) to conduct shelter rehabilitation activities, distribute emergency food assistance, assist individuals with disabilities, and provide psychological first aid—among other interventions—to refugees and vulnerable Lebanese affected by the explosions.

August 4 Explosions Exacerbate Needs Resulting from Economic Crisis in Lebanon

The impacts of the August 4 explosions continue to exacerbate the economic and food security crises in Lebanon, according to the UN. Prior to the explosions, rising unemployment and salary reductions, combined with inflation, had left many households concerned about their ability to access sufficient food. Nearly 40 percent of households in Beirut reported facing difficulties accessing food and other basic commodities due to lack of financial resources and high prices in July and August, according to a UN World Food Program (WFP) survey. The economic impact of the explosions—including loss of income due to damaged businesses—further exacerbated these vulnerabilities among affected populations. As such, those affected by the explosions continue to report food as a priority need, the UN reports. In response, food assistance partners launched a multipurpose cash assistance program, aiming to assist 10,000 vulnerable households affected by the explosions. Moreover, as of September 23, relief organizations had distributed 92,000 ready-to-eat meals and food parcels to 44,000 households affected by the explosions.

Relief Actors Respond to Ongoing Protection and PSS Needs

Protection actors continue to report a need for psychosocial support among explosion-affected individuals, including children. Nearly 90 percent of more than 300 surveyed, explosion-affected households reported a need for psychosocial support (PSS) services for children, according to non-governmental organization Terre des Hommes. The UN reports that from August 4 to September 23, humanitarian organizations reached approximately 47,500 people—including children—with protection services, including child protection, gender-based violence outreach and risk mitigation, legal assistance, mental health and PSS, and other specialized support.

Approximately 1,500 Buildings in Need of WASH-Related Repairs

Of 6,500 buildings assessed as of late September, relief actors had identified nearly 1,500 buildings in need of water, sanitation, and hygiene (WASH) interventions, of which more than 530 were related to issues connecting to the main water supply network. The explosions damaged more than 5,350 water tanks and 130 pumps. In response, WASH actors had re-established water supply connections for more than 670 buildings, reaching nearly 15,800 people, as of September 23. Interventions included installing nearly 2,700 new water tanks and 110 new pumps. Response organizations are also installing water tanks at hospitals damaged by the explosions to facilitate water access.

KEY FIGURES



77,735

Number of people targeted to receive USAID/BHA food assistance

NATIONAL, INTERNATIONAL, AND U.S. GOVERNMENT RESPONSE

FOOD SECURITY

Food security was a major concern in Lebanon prior to August 4, and the explosions destroyed silos at the Port of Beirut that processed 85 percent of the country's grain supply, the UN reports. However, repairs following the explosions have restored some of the port's capacity, and commercial operations have rapidly resumed. Additionally, as of September 9, a WFP shipment of approximately 12,500 metric tons (MT) of wheat flour was offloaded to mobile storage units at the port prior to distribution to bakeries and millers to bolster the national bread supply.

In response to the explosions, USAID/BHA provided \$10.5 million to WFP, aiming to provide in-kind food assistance and food vouchers to nearly 78,000 people affected by the explosions. As of September 23, food sector actors continued operating community kitchens, providing more than 3,000 meals per day, and had provided food parcels to 44,000 explosion-affected households, benefitting approximately 176,000 people, the UN reports. Moreover, nutrition organizations are conducting infant and young child feeding training sessions, reaching 5,250 pregnant and lactating women as of September 21.



6

Number of USG-procured IEHKs delivered to Beirut

HEALTH

Humanitarian organizations continue to address health needs in Beirut, providing essential supplies, medicines, and personal protective equipment (PPE); deploying mobile medical units (MMUs) to help absorb the caseload from damaged hospitals; and mobilizing additional medical staff through emergency medical teams (EMTs). Moreover, four health actors are conducting home visits to provide health services—including consultations and delivery of medicines—to older persons and people with disabilities, reaching nearly 800 people as of late September. Additionally, the UN World Health Organization (WHO) is supporting three EMTs to conduct infection prevention and control trainings at six public hospitals across Lebanon to expand COVID-19 response capacity.

On August 11, USAID/BHA coordinated with DoD to airlift six USAID/BHA-procured interagency emergency health kits (IEHKs)—containing critical medical commodities sufficient to support up to 60,000 people for three months—to Beirut. The kits were distributed to the American University of Beirut (AUB) and Lebanese American University to support life-saving health interventions. USAID/BHA is also supporting Caritas to expand primary health care services—including PSS—at four Beirut clinics and provide mobile and home health care services to populations unable to visit clinics. In addition, State/PRM partner the International Medical Corps (IMC) had provided PPE and other medical supplies to at least 2,000 people, 19 primary health care facilities, eight hospitals, and two MMUs as of September 16. IMC also provided more than 1,100 medical consultations and 1,750 psychological first aid consultations through two MMUs in impacted neighborhoods.



40,000

Number of buildings damaged by the August 4 explosions

SHELTER AND SETTLEMENTS

The August 4 explosions rendered approximately 170 buildings at risk of partial or total collapse, and nearly 40 percent of 6,100 assessed households identified shelter repair as a priority need, the UN reports. In response, USAID/BHA is supporting Lutheran World Relief (LWR) to assist with critical repairs to ensure that damaged homes are safe, secure, and habitable for the most vulnerable explosion-affected households. USAID/BHA is also supporting Caritas to provide explosion-affected communities with basic household items, such as mattresses and stoves, and access to temporary alternative shelter for people whose houses were destroyed by the explosions. Additionally, shelter and settlement partners—including State/PRM partner UNHCR—had distributed more than 7,500 shelter kits to explosion-affected households and repaired or rehabilitated structures for 1,200 households as of September 16, the UN reports.



25

Percent of households lacking connections to main water supply networks

WASH

Although most of Beirut's water supply infrastructure remains functional, the August 4 explosions damaged some water lines connecting houses to supply networks, generating needs for safe drinking water. In response, DoD provided safe drinking water for affected populations immediately following the explosions. Additionally, to address hygiene needs resulting from lack of water access and displacement, USAID/BHA is partnering with the AUB—in coordination with the Lebanese Red Cross (LRC)—to distribute emergency hygiene kits to those affected by the disaster. Meanwhile, WASH actors had distributed 5,460 hygiene kits to individuals in affected neighborhoods as of September 23.

LOGISTICS AND RELIEF COMMODITIES

From August 6 to 9, DoD delivered five flights of relief commodities, including nearly 230 MT of meals-ready-to-eat, medical supplies, and safe drinking water, to Beirut as part of U.S Government (USG) disaster response efforts.

USG HUMANITARIAN FUNDING FOR THE LEBANON EXPLOSIONS RESPONSE IN FY 2020^{1, 2}

IMPLEMENTING PARTNER	ACTIVITY	LOCATION	AMOUNT
USAID/BHA			
Non-Food Assistance			
Caritas	Health, Shelter and Settlements	Affected Areas	\$2,400,000
LRC	WASH	Affected Areas	\$100,000
LWR	Shelter and Settlements	Affected Areas	\$2,200,000
	USAID/BHA Airlifted Relief Commodities	Affected Areas	\$47,751
	Program Support Costs		\$60,262
TOTAL NON-FOOD ASSISTANCE FUNDING			\$4,808,013
Food Assistance			
WFP	Food Vouchers, Local and Regional Food Procurement	Affected Areas	\$10,500,000
TOTAL FOOD ASSISTANCE FUNDING			\$10,500,000
TOTAL USAID/BHA FUNDING			\$15,308,013
State/PRM³			
ICRC	Multi-Sector Assistance	Countrywide	\$2,750,000
UNHCR	Multi-Sector Assistance	Countrywide	8750000
WRF	Multi-Sector Assistance	Countrywide	\$600,000
TOTAL State/PRM FUNDING			\$12,100,000
DoD			
	Logistics Support and Relief Commodities	Beirut	\$3,794,200
TOTAL DoD FUNDING			\$3,794,200
TOTAL USG HUMANITARIAN FUNDING FOR THE LEBANON EXPLOSIONS RESPONSE IN FY 2020			\$31,202,213

¹ Year of funding indicates the date of commitment or obligation, not appropriation, of funds. Funding figures reflect publicly announced funding as of September 30, 2020.

² This total does not include USAID/BHA and State/PRM funding for refugee response activities in Lebanon. Existing State/PRM partners have reoriented activities to respond to the needs of individuals affected by the August 4 explosions.

³ State/PRM support for WRF assists Syrian refugees residing in Lebanon affected by the August 4 explosions, which is also reported as part of the Syria regional response in the USAID/BHA Syria Complex Emergency Fact Sheet. USAID/BHA support for WFP food operations benefitting refugees in Lebanon is also reported in the USAID/BHA Syria Complex Emergency Fact Sheet.

PUBLIC DONATION INFORMATION

- The most effective way people can assist relief efforts is by making monetary contributions to humanitarian organizations that are conducting relief operations. A list of humanitarian organizations that are accepting monetary support for disaster responses around the world can be found at [interaction.org](https://www.interaction.org).
- USAID encourages monetary contributions because they allow aid professionals to procure the exact items needed (often in the affected region); reduce the burden on scarce resources (such as transportation routes, staff time, and warehouse space); can be transferred very quickly and without transportation costs; support the economy of the disaster-stricken region; and ensure culturally, dietarily, and environmentally appropriate assistance.
- More information can be found at:
 - USAID Center for International Disaster Information: [cidi.org](https://www.cidi.org)
 - Information on relief activities of the humanitarian community can be found at [reliefweb.int](https://www.reliefweb.int).

USAID/BHA bulletins appear on the USAID website at [usaid.gov/humanitarian-assistance/where-we-work](https://www.usaid.gov/humanitarian-assistance/where-we-work)