



UNITED STATES GOVERNMENT SITUATION REPORT

Lebanon Humanitarian Emergency

USG Humanitarian Situation Report #8, Fiscal Year (FY) 2006

August 3, 2006

Note: The last situation report was dated August 2, 2006.

KEY DEVELOPMENTS

- At the request of the International Committee of the Red Cross (ICRC), USAID’s Office of U.S. Foreign Disaster Assistance (USAID/OFDA) is preparing to ship eight additional emergency health kits to Beirut in the coming days. Each health kit serves the needs of 10,000 people for 3 months.
- During a meeting with the U.S. Government (USG) Disaster Assistance Response Team (DART), the U.N. World Health Organization (WHO) reported that, after the upcoming shipment USAID/OFDA emergency health kits and the arrival of 10 additional health kits for WHO, no additional health kits are currently required in Lebanon. WHO emphasized that no field hospitals are needed, as Egyptian, Jordanian, and Saudi Arabian field hospitals are providing services in Beirut.

NUMBERS AT A GLANCE - LEBANON	SOURCE	
Dead	860	Government of Lebanon (GOL) – August 3, 2006
Injured	3,265	GOL - August 3, 2006
Internally Displaced Persons (IDPs)	693,760 ¹	GOL - August 3, 2006
Displaced to Neighboring Countries	220,000	GOL - August 3, 2006
Total Displaced Population	913,760	GOL - August 3, 2006

Total USG Humanitarian Assistance Committed to Lebanon.....\$20,056,219
Total USG Humanitarian Assistance Pledged to Lebanon\$30,000,000

CURRENT SITUATION

- Ongoing insecurity in Lebanon continues to prevent relief agencies from accurately assessing the growing number of people affected. As of August 3, the GOL Higher Relief Council (HRC) reported that 860 people have been killed and 3,265 people have been injured. HRC reports that 913,760 people, or one-fourth of Lebanon’s population, have fled their homes. Most displaced are located in South Beirut, Tyre (Sur), Sidon (Saida), Chouf, and Aaley. Although an estimated 565,000 displaced persons are staying with relatives and friends, an estimated 128,000 are located in schools and public institutions in Lebanon, and 220,000 have fled to neighboring countries, including 150,000 to Syria.

Humanitarian Needs and Response

- On August 3, the DART met with the new U.N. Humanitarian Coordinator (UNHC) and Designated Security Officer (DSO), as well as newly-arrived staff from the U.N. Office for the Coordination of Humanitarian Affairs (OCHA) and WHO. The DART reports that the overall presence of U.N. staff on the ground is increasing, with the recent arrival of additional OCHA staff, including staff from the Humanitarian Information Center (OCHA/HIC).
- OCHA has now held one or more coordination meetings for the following clusters: logistics, health, water and sanitation, food and nutrition, and protection clusters, according to the DART. On August 4, the Office of the U.N. High Commissioner for Refugees (UNHCR) has scheduled the first meeting of the shelter, camp management, and emergency relief supply cluster. The U.N. Development Program (UNDP) in Lebanon is taking the lead on a new cluster, developed to facilitate communication with local government municipalities which are responsible for distributing relief items delivered via U.N. convoy to the south.
- According to the U.N. World Food Program (WFP), the Government of Syria has granted the U.N. permission to buy one tanker of diesel and one tanker of petrol, for a total of 12,000 liters, to be used for U.N. operations in Lebanon.

Emergency Relief Supplies

- U.N. convoys continue to deliver relief supplies to southern Lebanon. As of August 2, U.N. relief convoys have delivered medical kits, shelter materials, and food to affected populations in Tyre, Jezzine, Sidon, Qana, and Tebnin. Local government municipalities are distributing the commodities. Food commodities include wheat flour, canned meat, vegetable oil, and high energy biscuits and provide for the needs of an estimated 80,000 people for one week.
- ICRC reports that it is currently unable to deliver relief supplies outside of main cities in the south due to ongoing conflict. On August 2, an ICRC convoy from Marjayoun arrived in Hasbaiya, where ICRC provided 3,000 meals ready

¹ This includes 128,760 sheltered in 761 schools and an estimated 565,000 sheltered with families, friends, churches, and mosques.

to eat (MREs), 500 blankets, and 200 tarps to the Lebanese Red Cross for distribution to families and IDPs in the surrounding villages of Ebel Es Saqi and Kaoukaba.

- In Jezzine, ICRC has installed showers to improve sanitary conditions in seven schools where IDPs have taken refuge. ICRC has also delivered 3,024 MREs, 1,275 tarps, and 2,000 blankets for distribution to surrounding villages.
- On August 2, an ICRC ship arrived in Tyre with 100 tons of MREs, sleeping mats, blankets, water and sanitation equipment, water jugs, and baby food for distribution in Tyre and the surrounding areas.
- UNHCR continues to work to establish a supply line to transport emergency relief commodities from Amman, through Damascus, into Lebanon. UNHCR reports that a convoy is scheduled to arrive in Beirut on August 3 with 175 tons of plastic sheeting, tents, mattresses, and kitchen items.

Refugees

- Since August 1, WFP has been providing food assistance to an estimated 7,000 Lebanese refugees in schools in the Damascus area. WFP reports that it has made arrangements with local bakeries in Syria to have bread directly delivered to distribution points, where WFP can monitor distribution to ensure that beneficiaries receive the correct rations.

USG ACTION

- On July 25, U.S. Ambassador to Lebanon Jeffrey Feltman declared a humanitarian emergency in Lebanon due to ongoing insecurity and humanitarian needs. During a visit to the region, U.S. Secretary of State Condoleezza Rice authorized \$30 million in immediate USG humanitarian assistance to persons affected by conflict in Lebanon.
- On July 23, a USG DART arrived in the region to determine priorities for USG humanitarian assistance. A Washington, D.C.-based Response Management Team is supporting the DART.
- On July 23, USAID/OFDA began to pre-position humanitarian relief supplies, including 1,000 tarps, 20,000 blankets, and 10 emergency health kits in Cyprus, to support the needs of approximately 155,000 beneficiaries. From July 25 to 29, the U.S. Military transported these supplies to Beirut. The U.S. Embassy consigned health kits to ICRC, WHO, and the International Medical Corps for delivery to affected populations in Beirut and southern Lebanon. Mercy Corps is distributing the blankets and tarps.
- On July 26, USAID/OFDA provided \$7 million to support the U.N. Flash Appeal for Lebanon, including \$3.3 million to WFP and the U.N. Joint Logistics Center (UNJLC) for logistics, \$2.5 million to the U.N. Children's Fund (UNICEF) for water and sanitation activities, and \$1.2 million to OCHA and OCHA/HIC for coordination.
- On July 31, USAID/OFDA provided \$3.3 million to Mercy Corps for water and sanitation services, psychosocial activities, and the distribution of food and emergency relief supplies.
- On August 3, USAID/OFDA provided \$2.8 million to Catholic Relief Services (CRS) for water and sanitation services, psychosocial support, and the distribution of relief supplies and health and shelter activities.
- State/PRM has contributed \$3.4 million to ICRC's emergency appeal for Lebanon, and \$1 million to the International Organization for Migration (IOM) and \$2 million to UNHCR in support of the U.N. Flash Appeal.
- In addition to evacuating more than 14,839 American citizens, the U.S. Military has been integral in providing transport to Beirut for both the DART and USAID emergency relief supplies. U.S. military personnel in the joint operating area are currently participating in the evacuation of U.S. citizens as well as humanitarian operations.

U.S. GOVERNMENT HUMANITARIAN ASSISTANCE TO LEBANON IN FY 2006¹

<i>Implementing Partner</i>	<i>Activity</i>	<i>Location</i>	<i>Amount</i>
Mercy Corps	Water and sanitation, psychosocial support, emergency relief supplies, and food	Beirut	\$3,369,250
Catholic Relief Services	Water and sanitation, psychosocial support, food, emergency shelter, and emergency relief supplies	Beirut	\$2,836,582
WFP	Logistics	Affected areas	\$3,000,000
UNJLC	Logistics	Affected areas	\$300,000
UNICEF	Water and sanitation	Affected areas	\$2,500,000
OCHA	Coordination	Affected areas	\$1,000,000
OCHA/HIC	Coordination	Affected areas	\$200,000
Multiple	Emergency relief supplies, including transport	Affected areas	\$294,537
	DART administrative costs	Affected areas	\$143,850
ICRC	Emergency relief activities	Affected areas	\$3,412,000
IOM	Emergency relief activities	Affected areas	\$1,000,000
UNHCR	Emergency relief activities	Affected areas	\$2,000,000
TOTAL FY 2006 USG HUMANITARIAN ASSISTANCE TO LEBANON			\$20,056,219

¹USG funding represents anticipated or actual obligated amounts as of August 3, 2006.

PUBLIC DONATION INFORMATION

- The most effective way people can assist relief efforts is by making cash contributions to humanitarian organizations that are conducting relief operations. Information on identifying such organizations is available in the “How Can I Help” section of www.usaid.gov (keyword: Lebanon) or by calling the Center for International Disaster Information (CIDI) at 703-276-1914.
- USAID encourages cash donations 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, warehouse space, etc); can be transferred very quickly and without transportation costs; support the economy of the disaster-stricken region; and ensure culturally, dietary, and environmentally appropriate assistance.
- More information can be found at:
 - USAID: www.usaid.gov (keyword: donations)
 - The Center for International Disaster Information: www.cidi.org or (703) 276-1914
 - Information on relief activities of the humanitarian community can be found at www.reliefweb.int