



UNITED STATES GOVERNMENT SITUATION REPORT

Lebanon Humanitarian Emergency

USG Humanitarian Situation Report #42, Fiscal Year (FY) 2006

September 29, 2006

Note: The last situation report was dated September 22, 2006.

KEY DEVELOPMENTS

- On September 22 and 23, a USG delegation of private sector leaders appointed by President George W. Bush visited Lebanon to observe areas affected by the recent conflict and to meet with Prime Minister Siniora and business leaders to discuss rebuilding priorities. The members of the delegation plan to launch a U.S. campaign for private donations to a reconstruction fund for Lebanon. Global Impact, a U.S.-based non-governmental organization (NGO), will manage the fund, which will complement the \$230 million in aid already pledged by the USG.
- On September 29, the U.N. Office for the Coordination of Humanitarian Affairs (OCHA) and the U.N. Development Program (UNDP) will transfer coordination responsibility from OCHA-led humanitarian assistance to UNDP-led early recovery. OCHA will continue to advise as necessary until October 24, the end of the U.N. Flash Appeal for Lebanon.

| NUMBERS AT A GLANCE – LEBANON | | SOURCE |
|-----------------------------------|---------|--|
| Dead | 1,191 | Government of Lebanon (GOL) – September 29, 2006 |
| Injured | 4,405 | GOL – September 29, 2006 |
| Total Displaced Population | 200,000 | GOL – September 29, 2006 |
| Estimated Returns to Date | 774,184 | GOL – September 29, 2006 |

Total USG Humanitarian Assistance Committed to Lebanon..... \$70,941,120
Total USG Humanitarian and Reconstruction Assistance Pledged to Lebanon \$230,000,000

CURRENT SITUATION

- The GOL’s Higher Relief Council (HRC) reports that 774,184 displaced persons have returned to their home areas since August 14. At the height of the emergency, HRC estimated that nearly 975,000 Lebanese fled their homes. Most of the remaining 200,000 internally displaced persons (IDPs) and refugees are staying with host families. According to HRC, 1,191 Lebanese were killed and approximately 4,405 injured during the conflict.

Assessments and Remaining Needs

- The International Organization for Migration (IOM) conducted a psychosocial assessment of displaced Lebanese, according to the U.N. World Health Organization (WHO). Initial results from Nabatiye and Baalbek confirmed that the displaced population suffers from conflict-related stress. IOM recommends that agencies provide services that address the clinical needs of the population in underserved areas.
- On September 30, a United Nations Environment Program (UNEP) team is scheduled to arrive in Lebanon to conduct a post-conflict environmental assessment. The team will examine key environmental hazards including waste rubble, medical and industrial waste, coastal marine pollution, asbestos, and ground water contamination.

Water and Sanitation

- OCHA reports that relief agencies are now shifting water and sanitation activities to support government and municipal water authorities, as generators are now available and workers have restored electric power more quickly than originally anticipated.
- WHO has urged that agencies focus on water safety and control as the rainy season approaches, in order to avoid outbreaks of waterborne diseases.

Logistics

- The U.N. World Food Program (WFP) has closed the consolidation and loading point in Aarida on the Lebanese–Syrian border, as WFP reports that transport via regular commercial means is now possible. In addition, the U.N. Joint Logistics Center (UNJLC) reports that the logistics hub in Tyre (Sur) will close by approximately October 6.

Health

- WHO is providing medication for the health centers in the towns of Srafa, Deir Aamess, and Borj ech Chmali, in Tyre District; Kafra, Yaroun, Braachit, and Rmaich in Bent Jbail District; and Hasbaiya in Hasbaiya District, according to OCHA. WHO has provided a supplementary health kit for the Hasbaiya hospital. In addition, WHO is investigating purported cases of hepatitis A and diarrhea in Siddiqine, Tyre District.

Protection

- On September 23, the U.N. Human Rights Council's High Level Commission of Inquiry into the situation in Lebanon arrived in Beirut to investigate human rights abuses committed during the recent conflict. The commission will remain in Lebanon until October 7.

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. U.S. President George W. Bush has authorized \$230 million in USG humanitarian and reconstruction assistance for persons affected by conflict in Lebanon.
- On July 23, the USG Disaster Assistance Response Team (DART), led by the U.S. Agency for International Development (USAID), arrived in the region to prioritize USG assistance. During the height of the emergency, a Washington, D.C.–based Response Management Team supported the DART.
- To date, USAID's Office of U.S. Foreign Disaster Assistance (OFDA) has provided 3,000 tarps, 40,000 blankets, and 18 emergency health kits in support of relief operations in Lebanon. The DART has consigned these relief supplies to the International Committee of the Red Cross (ICRC), WHO, International Medical Corps (IMC), and Mercy Corps for delivery to nearly 300,000 beneficiaries in Beirut and southern Lebanon. Total USG-donated commodities are valued at more than \$590,000, including transport.
- USAID/OFDA has provided \$7 million to support the U.N. Flash Appeal for Lebanon to WFP and UNJLC for logistics and coordination, the U.N. Children's Fund (UNICEF) for water and sanitation activities, OCHA and OCHA's Humanitarian Information Center (HIC) for coordination and information management. The U.S. Department of State's Bureau of Population, Refugees, and Migration (State/PRM) has provided \$7.5 million to the U.N. Flash Appeal to UNHCR and the U.N. Relief Works Agency for Palestine Refugees (UNRWA) for protection, shelter, and emergency relief supplies, to U.N. Department of Safety and Security (UNDSS) for safety and security activities, and to IOM for transportation of third-country nationals. State/PRM has also contributed more than \$13.5 million to ICRC's emergency appeal for protection, food, health, and water and sanitation activities.
- USAID/OFDA has contributed more than \$32 million to American Near East Refugee Aid (ANERA), Catholic Relief Services (CRS), CHF International, IMC, International Orthodox Christian Charities (IOCC), Mercy Corps, Mines Advisory Group (MAG), and World Vision for distribution of food and relief supplies, food security and agriculture, health services, infrastructure rehabilitation, livelihood recovery activities, nutrition, protection, psychosocial support, demining and unexploded ordnance (UXO) clearance, transitional shelter activities, and/or water and sanitation services. USAID/OFDA has provided nearly \$26,000 to Church World Service (CWS) for security training for relief NGOs.
- The USG has provided nearly \$10 million in wheat flour, wheat, and lentil commodities. USAID's Office of Food for Peace is providing 1,000 MT of P.L. 480 Title II emergency food assistance to support WFP operations. Through the Food for Progress program, the U.S. Department of Agriculture (USDA) provided 25,000 MT of wheat to the GOL.
- The U.S. Department of State's Bureau of Political and Military Affairs, Office of Weapons Removal and Abatement will provide \$420,000 in FY 2006 and up to \$2 million in FY 2007 to MAG for demining activities in Lebanon, subject to Congressional approval.
- In addition to evacuating nearly 15,000 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. GOVERNMENT HUMANITARIAN ASSISTANCE TO LEBANON IN FY 2006–2007¹

| <i>Implementing Partner</i> | <i>Activity</i> | <i>Location</i> | <i>Amount</i> |
|--|--|--|---------------------|
| ANERA | Food security and agriculture and livelihoods | South Lebanon | \$2,000,000 |
| CRS | Water and sanitation, psychosocial support, food, shelter, emergency relief supplies, food security and agriculture, and protection | Bekaa, Beirut, Mt. Lebanon, North Lebanon, Nabatiye, South Lebanon | \$6,352,741 |
| CHF International | Water and sanitation, psychosocial support, health, livelihoods, food security and agriculture, and emergency relief supplies | Bekaa, Beirut, Mt. Lebanon, Nabatiye, North Lebanon, South Lebanon | \$5,261,358 |
| CWS | Security training for relief workers | Jordan | \$25,916 |
| ICRC | Protection, food, health, and water and sanitation | Countrywide | \$13,512,000 |
| IMC | Water and sanitation, health, psychosocial support, and emergency relief supplies | Bekaa, Beirut, Mt. Lebanon, Nabatiye, South Lebanon | \$5,413,917 |
| IOM | Evacuation of third-country nationals | Countrywide | \$1,000,000 |
| IOCC | Water and sanitation, health, psychosocial support, infrastructure rehabilitation, emergency relief supplies, and livelihoods | Nabatiye, South Lebanon | \$1,999,427 |
| Mercy Corps | Water and sanitation, shelter, nutrition, emergency relief supplies, health, food security and agriculture, school rehabilitation, protection, and livelihoods | Mt. Lebanon, South Lebanon, Nabatiye, Bekaa, Beirut | \$8,369,974 |
| MAG | Demining and UXO clearance | Countrywide | \$1,199,984 |
| OCHA | Coordination | Countrywide | \$1,000,000 |
| OCHA/HIC | Information management | Countrywide | \$200,000 |
| UNDSS | Safety and security for humanitarian operations | Countrywide | \$300,000 |
| UNJLC | Logistics | Countrywide | \$300,000 |
| UNICEF | Coordination and water and sanitation | Countrywide | \$2,500,000 |
| UNHCR | Protection, shelter, and emergency relief supplies | Countrywide | \$4,200,000 |
| UNRWA | Food, health, and emergency relief supplies | Countrywide | \$2,000,000 |
| World Vision | Water and sanitation and emergency relief supplies | North Lebanon, Mt. Lebanon, Bekaa, Beirut | \$1,563,584 |
| WFP | Logistics and coordination | Countrywide | \$3,000,000 |
| | 1,000 MT of P.L. 480 Title II Emergency Food Assistance ² | Countrywide | \$707,400 |
| GOL | 25,000 MT of USDA Food for Progress Assistance | Countrywide | \$9,200,000 |
| Multiple | Emergency relief supplies, including transport | Affected areas | \$590,271 |
| Multiple | DART administrative costs | Affected areas | \$244,548 |
| TOTAL FY 2006–2007 USG HUMANITARIAN ASSISTANCE TO LEBANON | | | \$70,941,120 |

¹ USG funding represents anticipated or actual obligated amounts as of September 29, 2006.

² Part of this contribution will come from FY 2007 funding.

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

USG bulletins appear on the USAID web site at http://www.usaid.gov/our_work/humanitarian_assistance/disaster_assistance/