



UNITED STATES GOVERNMENT SITUATION REPORT

Lebanon Humanitarian Emergency

USG Humanitarian Situation Report #1, Fiscal Year (FY) 2007

October 6, 2006

Note: The last situation report was dated September 29, 2006.

KEY DEVELOPMENTS

- On September 29, the U.S. Agency for International Development’s Office of U.S. Foreign Disaster Assistance (USAID/OFDA) provided \$1 million to Seacor Environmental Services International (SES) to assist in clean-up efforts associated with the mid-July oil spill. USAID’s Bureau for Asia and the Near East (USAID/ANE) is complementing this funding by providing an additional \$4 million. On September 30, SES began work along the Lebanese coast.
- According to the USG Disaster Assistance Response Team (DART), aid agencies are increasingly focused on unexploded ordnance (UXO) clearance, as their presence is a significant constraint to recovery and reconstruction efforts. In addition to the immediate threat to personal safety, UXO is preventing some populations in conflict-affected areas from returning to their communities, rebuilding homes, beginning school, and engaging in agricultural activities.

NUMBERS AT A GLANCE – LEBANON		SOURCE
Dead	1,191	Government of Lebanon (GOL) – October 6, 2006
Injured	4,405	GOL – October 6, 2006
Total Displaced Population	200,000	GOL – October 6, 2006
Estimated Returns to Date	774,184	GOL – October 6, 2006

Total USG Humanitarian Assistance Committed to Lebanon..... \$71,941,320
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

- From September 23 to 29, the U.N. World Food Program (WFP) conducted four monitoring trips, primarily in Jezzine and Sidon (Saida) districts. The monitoring teams reported that prices of commodities in the market had not changed notably and that increased food assistance is only required in the village of Aaichiye, Jezzine District.
- In Baalbek District, the Office of the U.N. High Commissioner for Refugees (UNHCR) has provided blankets, mattresses, tents, kitchen sets, and hygiene items for more than 240 families that still remain displaced.

Food

- On September 29, the third round of WFP food distributions began with the delivery of more than 470 metric tons (MT) of food commodities to Jibchit and 167 MT to Charqiye, both in Nabatiye District. This round of distribution is expected to provide 4,000 MT of food commodities to 655,000 people in southern Lebanon, the Bekaa Valley, and the southern suburbs of Beirut.

Logistics

- According to the U.N. Joint Logistics Center (UNJLC), WFP is planning to hand over all WFP infrastructure in Tyre (Sur)—including mobile storage tents and pre-fabricated offices—to the U.N. Mine Action Coordination Center in Southern Lebanon (UNMACC–SL), upon WFP’s departure on October 24.

Health

- According to the U.N. World Health Organization (WHO), the most common health concerns reported from 21 sites have been watery diarrhea, respiratory infections, and injuries. In Siddiqine, Tyre District—the site of reported cases of diarrhea and hepatitis—WHO is currently investigating the water source and providing hygiene education. WHO confirmed a case of hepatitis A at Jamal Amel Hospital in Tyre.
- WHO has conducted an operational assessment of the health facilities of 12 villages in southern Lebanon. The assessment team reported that most of the health facilities are able to provide health services; however, the provision of water and power still remain a concern.

USG Partner Update

- In Marjayoun and Nabatiye districts, Mercy Corps has begun repairing 32 public schools and completed monitoring activities, as well as the last distribution of food, water, and hygiene kits. In Baalbek District, Mercy Corps is rehabilitating 10 public schools and preparing school kits for students. As of October 2, Mercy Corps has reached more than 372,000 beneficiaries in Lebanon.

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 DART, led by 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/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, the U.N. Office for the Coordination of Humanitarian Affairs (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 the International Organization for Migration (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, International Medical Corps (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 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. In addition, on September 29, OFDA provided \$1 million to assist in cleanup efforts associated with the mid-July oil spill. USAID’s Bureau for Asia and the Near East (USAID/ANE) is complementing this funding by providing an additional \$4 million.
- 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
SES	Oil spill clean-up activities	North Lebanon, Mt. Lebanon	\$1,000,000
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	\$244,748
TOTAL FY 2006–2007 USG HUMANITARIAN ASSISTANCE TO LEBANON			\$71,941,320

¹USG funding represents anticipated or actual obligated amounts as of October 6, 2006.

²This contribution includes approximately \$280,000 of FY 2006 funding and approximately \$426,000 of 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