



UNITED STATES GOVERNMENT SITUATION REPORT

Lebanon Humanitarian Emergency

USG Humanitarian Situation Report #3, Fiscal Year (FY) 2007

October 20, 2006

Note: The last situation report was dated October 13, 2006.

KEY DEVELOPMENTS

- The USG Disaster Assistance Response Team (DART) reports that the onset of Lebanon’s rainy season has made shelter assistance, particularly winterizations activities, more urgent. Following recent assessments conducted by several partner agencies, the DART is working to expand emergency and early recovery programs in order to provide more internally displaced persons (IDPs) and returnees in conflict-affected areas with critically needed winterization supplies, including shelter materials, blankets, stoves, fuel vouchers, and hygiene kits.
- On October 20, the Department of Defense (DOD) provided \$2.8 million to the Mines Advisory Group (MAG), through the U.S. Department of State’s Bureau of Political-Military Affairs, Office of Weapons Removal and Abatement (State/PM/WRA), for demining and removal of unexploded ordnance (UXO) in southern Lebanon.

NUMBERS AT A GLANCE – LEBANON		SOURCE
Dead	1,191	Government of Lebanon (GOL) – October 20, 2006
Injured	4,409	GOL – October 20, 2006
Total Displaced Population	200,000	GOL – October 20, 2006
Estimated Returns to Date	774,184	GOL – October 20, 2006

Total USG Humanitarian Assistance Committed to Lebanon..... \$77,159,920
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 IDPs and refugees are staying with host families. According to HRC, 1,191 Lebanese were killed and approximately 4,409 injured during the conflict.

DART Update

- On October 12, the DART traveled to villages in Mount Lebanon to assess the progress and impact of a USG-supported livelihood recovery program implemented by CHF International, in collaboration with local partners. As one of several USG-funded responses to livelihoods issues resulting from the recent conflict, CHF initiated an innovative apple harvesting project in five districts in Mount Lebanon that creates cash-for-work opportunities for more than 2,000 students and other unskilled laborers, while also providing support to approximately 1,500 farmers in the form of subsidized labor.
- During the DART’s visit, students, growers, project staff, and community members interviewed were enthusiastic about the program. The DART noted that the program is building local capacity while also supporting students that had lost employment opportunities as a result of the conflict. The activities are also fostering important links between university students and the private sector.

Shelter and Emergency Relief Supplies

- At the October 6 shelter cluster meeting, the Office of the U.N. High Commissioner for Refugees (UNHCR) announced that it is finalizing distributions of emergency relief items and will not participate in early recovery shelter activities. Shelter cluster leadership will formally pass to the U.N. Human Settlements Program (UN HABITAT) at the end of the emergency period on October 24.
- According to the DART, on October 13, UNHCR and UN HABITAT invited a representative from the Council of the South (COS) to the shelter cluster meeting to discuss strategies for improving coordination efforts in the shelter sector. COS has completed comprehensive surveys of damaged houses in South Lebanon and is currently entering this information into a database. COS is prepared to share information about activities and remaining needs with cluster members and asked non-governmental organizations (NGOs) to communicate with COS regarding planned activities and areas of work.

Water and Sanitation

- The U.N. Children’s Fund (UNICEF) reports that the water and sanitation cluster remains active as the scope of interventions is expanding to urgently needed early recovery initiatives, such as rehabilitation of water pipes and systems

and repair of wells and irrigation systems. Emergency water distributions, such as provision of water by tanker trucks and bottled water, are gradually ending.

- Water quality continues to be an area that agencies are closely monitoring. Results of recent water quality tests by several NGOs show that water quality in their areas of operation is generally acceptable. However, additional testing is required for a more comprehensive picture of the situation, particularly in rural communities.

Logistics

- The U.N. Joint Logistics Center (UNJLC) reports that U.N.-assisted humanitarian cargo movement will cease today, October 20. Previously, the logistics cluster was transporting relief supplies for UNICEF and the U.N. World Food Program (WFP) from Beirut.

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 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.
- USAID's Office of U.S. Foreign Disaster Assistance (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, 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, OFDA provided \$1 million to Seacor Environmental Services (SES) to assist in clean-up efforts associated with the mid-July oil spill. USAID's Bureau for Asia and the Near East complemented this funding by providing an additional \$4 million.
- USAID/OFDA has provided \$7 million to support the U.N. Flash Appeal for Lebanon to WFP and UNJLC for logistics and coordination, 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.
- In response to emergency needs, USAID/OFDA provided 3,000 tarps, 40,000 blankets, and 18 emergency health kits in support of relief operations in Lebanon. The DART consigned these relief supplies to ICRC, the U.N. World Health Organization (WHO), 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.
- 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 Department of State's Bureau of International Organization Affairs (State/IO) provided \$2 million in reprogrammed FY 2005 funding to support U.N. Mine Action Service (UNMAS) demining and UXO clearance activities.
- State/PM/WRA provided \$420,000 of FY 2006 funding to MAG for demining activities in Lebanon.
- The Department of Defense (DOD) provided \$2.8 million to MAG, through the State/PM/WRA, for demining and UXO clearance in southern Lebanon.
- 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>
FY 2006 USG ASSISTANCE			
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, North Lebanon, Nabatiye, 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	\$1,619,984
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
	300 MT of P.L. 480 Title II Emergency Food Assistance	Countrywide	\$280,000
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	Administration and operations	Affected areas	\$244,748
TOTAL FY 2006 USG HUMANITARIAN ASSISTANCE TO LEBANON			\$71,933,920
FY 2007 USG ASSISTANCE			
WFP	700 MT of P.L. 480 Title II Emergency Food Assistance	Countrywide	\$426,000
MAG	Demining and UXO clearance	Nabatiye, South Lebanon	\$2,800,000
UNMAS	Demining and UXO clearance ²	Nabatiye, South Lebanon	\$2,000,000
TOTAL FY 2007 USG HUMANITARIAN ASSISTANCE TO LEBANON			\$5,226,000
TOTAL USG HUMANITARIAN ASSISTANCE TO LEBANON IN FY 2006 AND FY 2007			\$77,159,920

¹ USG funding represents anticipated or actual obligated amounts as of October 20, 2006.

² This amount is reprogrammed FY 2005 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