



UNITED STATES GOVERNMENT SITUATION REPORT

Lebanon Humanitarian Emergency

USG Humanitarian Situation Report #8, Fiscal Year (FY) 2007

December 1, 2006

Note: The last situation report was dated November 17, 2006.

KEY DEVELOPMENTS

- On November 21, the USG Disaster Assistance Response Team (DART) traveled to Marjayoun and Hasbeya districts to monitor the progress and impact of school rehabilitation and winterization projects funded by the U.S. Agency for International Development's Office of U.S. Foreign Disaster Assistance (USAID/OFDA).
- USAID/OFDA partner Mines Advisory Group (MAG) reported that unexploded ordnance (UXO) clearance teams in southern Lebanon suffered three casualties in two separate incidents between November 24 and 25. Three international staff suffered severe injuries but are in stable condition. MAG temporarily suspended UXO clearance activities during an initial investigation into the incidents, but resumed operations as of November 27.
- From November 18 to 30, USAID/OFDA provided more than \$7.8 million in funding for program activities in Lebanon, including \$600,000 to the World Rehabilitation Fund (WRF) for mine risk education and victims' assistance activities; more than \$4.8 million to Mercy Corps for winterization activities; \$500,000 to ACDI/VOCA to reduce vulnerability and increase livelihoods security for the most conflict-affected herder populations in the Bekaa Valley; and more than \$1.9 million to Habitat for Humanity for transitional shelter assistance in southern Lebanon.

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

Total USG Humanitarian Assistance Committed to Lebanon..... \$108,330,943
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, the conflict killed 1,191 Lebanese and injured approximately 4,409 others.

USG DART Update

- On November 21, the DART visited a school in Marjayoun District rehabilitated by USAID/OFDA partner International Orthodox Christian Charities (IOCC). During the conflict, the school hosted approximately 500 internally displaced families and sustained damage both from nearby bombardments and from use as a temporary shelter. IOCC repaired damaged walls, renovated sanitation facilities, installed new windows, and painted the interior and exterior of the building. On October 25, the school opened on schedule to begin the school year. With USAID/OFDA support, IOCC has rehabilitated 23 public schools in Hasbeya and Marjayoun districts—benefiting more than 2,500 students—since the end of the conflict.
- In Hasbeya District, the DART monitored an IOCC distribution of winterization supplies to vulnerable households. Families targeted included female-headed households and families with disabilities. IOCC distributed hygiene kits, cooking supplies, and either a stove or a heater, depending on the preference of the family. With USAID/OFDA support, IOCC will carry out three distribution rounds targeting more than 4,000 of the most vulnerable families in 64 villages in Hasbeya, Marjayoun, Bent Jbail, and Tyre (Sur) districts.

Water and Sanitation

- With USAID/OFDA support, humanitarian aid organizations have distributed nearly 10,000 household water tanks to families throughout Lebanon since the end of the conflict and plan to distribute an additional 3,650 water tanks in the coming weeks. In addition, aid agencies are delivering nearly 50 generators to public facilities and repairing or replacing key components of almost 60 community water systems. USAID/OFDA partners are also providing cash grants of up to \$10,000 to villages for small-scale repair projects prioritized by the community. While these water and sanitation activities have proven effective during the emergency and early recovery periods, large-scale physical infrastructure and capacity building initiatives remain necessary to address the longer-term water needs in the country.

- The DART reported that the U.N. Children’s Fund (UNICEF) has ceased all water tankering operations, following a rapid needs assessment in southern Lebanon. According to UNICEF, aid agencies continue to truck water to isolated villages in Nabatiye District.

Food Security and Agriculture

- On November 27, the U.N. Food and Agriculture Organization (FAO) released the final findings from a damage and early recovery needs assessment of the agriculture, fisheries, and forestry sectors. According to the report, much of this year’s agricultural harvest perished on the ground, as the conflict forced farmers to abandon their lands. In addition, the presence of UXO has left many agricultural fields and pastures inaccessible to farmers. FAO estimates \$280 million in total agricultural-related damage and losses due to the conflict, including \$232 million in total financial damage to the crop production sector, \$22 million to the livestock sector, \$9.7 million to the fisheries sector, and \$16 million to the forestry sector.
- FAO has identified priority initiatives for implementation within the next 6 to 12 months to address the critical situation of vulnerable farming communities in southern Lebanon, including the establishment of an early recovery coordination unit. USAID/OFDA has provided nearly \$200,000 in funding to FAO for the establishment of this unit; FAO is seeking approximately \$17 million in additional funding for other priority initiatives.

USG Partner Update

- From November 10 to 17, USAID/OFDA partner Mercy Corps distributed 7,550 blankets to families in 14 villages in northern Lebanon and the Bekaa Valley. The blankets were distributed at a critical time, due to the onset of winter conditions in Lebanon. With USAID/OFDA support, Mercy Corps will provide a total of 47,500 blankets to vulnerable families throughout the country.
- From November 1 to 15, USAID/OFDA partner American Near East Refugee Aid (ANERA) distributed 84 cash grants to small farmers to restart economic and agricultural activities. ANERA is providing small grants of up to \$2,000 to farmers, fisher communities, and small business owners who suffered physical damages to property and financial losses during the conflict. With USAID/OFDA support, ANERA programs will reach more than 45,000 people in South 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.
- USAID/OFDA has contributed nearly \$66 million in humanitarian assistance to Lebanon. USAID/OFDA has provided funding to partners ACDI/VOCA, ANERA, CRS, Church World Service (CWS), CHF International, International Medical Corps, IOCC, MAG, Mercy Corps, World Vision, and WRF for distribution of food and relief supplies, food security and agriculture, health services, infrastructure rehabilitation, livelihood recovery activities, nutrition, protection, psychosocial support, transitional and winterization shelter activities, security training for relief organizations, and/or water, sanitation, and hygiene services. USAID/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.
- The USG has provided more than \$9.6 million for demining and UXO clearance activities in Lebanon. USAID/OFDA has provided nearly \$1.2 million to MAG for demining and UXO clearance activities and \$600,000 to WRF for mine risk education and a victims’ assistance program. The U.S. Department of State’s Bureau of International Organization Affairs provided \$2 million to the U.N. Mine Action Service (UNMAS). The Department of State’s Bureau of Political-Military Affairs, Office of Weapons Removal and Abatement (State/PM/WRA) provided \$420,000 to MAG and \$384,000 to RONCO for demining and UXO clearance activities, as well as \$30,000 to the Vietnam Veterans of America Foundation (VVAF) for the mapping of UXO. The U.S. Department of Defense (DOD) provided \$5 million for humanitarian assistance in Lebanon to the U.S. Department of State’s Office of the Coordinator for Reconstruction and Stabilization (State/S/CRS), who apportioned this \$5 million to State/PM/WRA. Of this \$5 million, State/PM/WRA provided \$2.8 million to MAG and \$2.2 million to RONCO for UXO clearance and demining activities.
- USAID/OFDA has provided \$7 million to support the U.N. Flash Appeal for Lebanon to the U.N. World Food Program (WFP) and the U.N. Joint Logistics Center (UNJLC) for logistics and coordination; UNICEF for water, sanitation, and hygiene activities; FAO for agriculture and livelihoods projects; and 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) provided \$7.5 million to the U.N. Flash Appeal to the Office of the U.N. High Commissioner for Refugees (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 the International Committee of the Red Cross (ICRC) emergency appeal for protection, food, health, and water, sanitation, and hygiene activities.

- From July 25 to August 24, 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.
- In addition to evacuating nearly 15,000 American citizens, the U.S. Military provided 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	Psychosocial support, food, shelter, emergency relief supplies, food security and agriculture, protection, and water, sanitation, and hygiene	Bekaa, Beirut, Mt. Lebanon, North Lebanon, Nabatiye, South Lebanon	\$6,352,741
CHF International	Psychosocial support, health, livelihoods, food security and agriculture, emergency relief supplies, and water, sanitation, and hygiene	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, sanitation, and hygiene	Countrywide	\$13,512,000
IMC	Health, psychosocial support, emergency relief supplies, and water, sanitation, and hygiene	Bekaa, Beirut, Mt. Lebanon, Nabatiye, South Lebanon	\$5,413,917
IOM	Evacuation of third-country nationals	Countrywide	\$1,000,000
IOCC	Health, psychosocial support, infrastructure rehabilitation, emergency relief supplies, livelihoods, and water, sanitation, and hygiene	Nabatiye, South Lebanon	\$1,999,427
Mercy Corps	Shelter, nutrition, emergency relief supplies, health, food security and agriculture, school rehabilitation, protection, livelihoods, and water, sanitation, and hygiene	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
RONCO	Demining and UXO clearance	Countrywide	\$384,000
SES	Oil spill clean-up activities	North Lebanon, Mt. Lebanon	\$5,000,000
UNDSS	Safety and security for humanitarian operations	Countrywide	\$300,000
UNJLC	Logistics	Countrywide	\$300,000
UNICEF	Coordination and water, sanitation, and hygiene	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
VVAF	UXO mapping	Countrywide	\$30,000
World Vision	Emergency relief supplies and water, sanitation, and hygiene	North Lebanon, Mt. Lebanon, Bekaa, Beirut, Nabatiye	\$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			\$76,347,920
FY 2007 USG ASSISTANCE			
ACDI/VOCA	Food security, agriculture, shelter, livelihoods, and water, sanitation, and hygiene	Bekaa	\$501,344
ANERA	Food security and agriculture and livelihoods	South Lebanon	\$2,205,500

CRS	Psychosocial support, shelter, emergency relief supplies, food security and agriculture, livelihoods, and water, sanitation, and hygiene	Bekaa, Beirut, Mt. Lebanon, North Lebanon, Nabatiye, South Lebanon	\$5,939,534
CHF International	Food security and agriculture and protection	Bekaa, Beirut, Mt. Lebanon, North Lebanon, Nabatiye, South Lebanon	\$1,163,685
FAO	Food security and agriculture	Countrywide	\$196,900
Habitat for Humanity	Shelter and livelihoods	Nabatiye, South Lebanon	\$1,918,421
IOCC	Agriculture, food security, protection, relief supplies, and water, sanitation, and hygiene	Nabatiye, South Lebanon	\$1,733,405
UNMAS	Demining and UXO clearance ²	South Lebanon	\$2,000,000
MAG	Demining and UXO clearance	South Lebanon	\$2,800,000
Mercy Corps	Relief supplies, protection, livelihoods, and water, sanitation, and hygiene	Bekaa, Nabatiye, Mt. Lebanon	\$4,822,436
RONCO	Demining and UXO clearance	South Lebanon	\$2,200,000
WFP	700 MT of P.L. 480 Title II Emergency Food Assistance	Countrywide	\$426,000
WRF	Mine risk education and victims' assistance	Nabatiye, South Lebanon	\$600,001
World Vision	Relief supplies and shelter	North Lebanon, Mt. Lebanon, Bekaa, Beirut, Nabatiye	\$5,475,797
TOTAL FY 2007 USG HUMANITARIAN ASSISTANCE TO LEBANON			\$31,983,023
TOTAL USG HUMANITARIAN ASSISTANCE TO LEBANON IN FY 2006 AND FY 2007			\$108,330,943

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

²This 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