

Flash appeal for immediate emergency needs for Palestine refugees in North Lebanon, June 2007

Overview of events

On 20 May fierce clashes erupted between armed members of the radical group Fatah Al Islam (FAI) and the Lebanese Army in Tripoli in northern Lebanon. These quickly spread to the nearby Palestinian refugee camp of Nahr El Bared (NBC), which has been infiltrated by up to 200 armed FAI fighters. Fighting between FAI members and the Army raged for three days until a ceasefire was brokered on the afternoon of 22 May. Despite sporadic and sometimes intense exchanges of gunfire and shelling, this ceasefire held largely for over one week but on 1st June fighting again broke out with a renewed intensity. The Lebanese Army siege of Nahr El Bared continues, with troops in a tense stand-off with FAI members holed up inside the camp, and controlling all movement in and out.

UNRWA estimates that approximately 27,000 registered refugees were living inside NBC prior to the start of the current crisis. By 25 May, the majority of families had fled, either seeking shelter in nearby Beddawi camp - with relatives or in UNRWA schools - or moving in with relatives in other Palestinian refugee camps across Lebanon. By 31 May there were indications that between 3 – 5,000 refugees remained inside the camp, where they have been besieged without adequate water, sanitation and electricity since 20 May. It is believed that those still inside the camp include children, the sick and the elderly.

With the security situation inside NBC unresolved, access to the camp remains extremely problematic. Up to date information on the number of casualties is not available; by 31 May, the Palestine Red Crescent, which has continued to run ambulance services into and out of the camp, stated that 18 civilians had been killed since the start of the crisis. Media reports indicate that over 30 Lebanese soldiers and up to 60 FAI members have been killed. UNRWA is extremely concerned about the safety of the civilians who remain inside Nahr El Bared camp and calls for their rights under International Human Rights and Humanitarian Law to be upheld.

Humanitarian consequences

It is believed that NBC has sustained significant damage during the fighting and shelling, with large numbers of public and private buildings affected and water, sewage and electricity networks badly damaged. Over one-third of the 315 UNRWA staff living in the camp who have fled have reported that their homes have either been destroyed or damaged. Water services in the camp are believed to be no longer functioning: the water reservoirs that serve the camp have been damaged, whilst many of the plastic household water containers on the roofs of refugee shelters have been shot through with arms fire. A small number of privately owned wells may be functioning but require benzene for pumping, which is in severely short supply. Sewage systems are likely to be clogged up after several days without running water, presenting a potentially major public health risk. Refugees who have fled the camp since the fighting began have been treated for dehydration, diarrhoea and stomach complaints.

As a direct consequence of the crisis the population of Beddawi camp, 15km to the south of NBC, has swollen from around 16,000 persons to 37,000, seriously stretching

already crowded living conditions and overburdened facilities. Displaced persons have scant resources to purchase food and essential supplies, whilst the coping mechanisms of hosting refugee families, many of whom are themselves facing extreme hardship, are severely strained. Many refugees fleeing the camp are suffering from stress and trauma as a result of their ordeal, with the needs of children a particular concern.

Water services in Beddawi camp are currently able to meet the needs of the displaced; however, UNRWA has so far not been able to test the water level in the wells, so future shortages cannot be ruled out. Provision of adequate sanitation for affected families is a major worry. Over 2,000 of the displaced are living in UNRWA schools in and around Beddawi, which do not have adequate washing and toilet facilities; private facilities in host households are also coming under strain.

Initial humanitarian response

UNRWA is working closely with other UN Agencies, the ICRC, the Lebanese Red Cross, the Palestinian Red Crescent Society (PRCS), the PLO, local and international NGOs, the Lebanese Higher Relief Committee and others to assess and provide for the needs of the Palestine refugees of Nahr El Bared, both inside and outside the camp. An UNRWA emergency team has been established in North Lebanon and large numbers of humanitarian workers are involved in daily assessments of needs and provision of support. The Agency is hosting regular meetings with all humanitarian partners to coordinate and plan emergency efforts for the affected population.

Nahr El Bared Camp: following the agreement of a ceasefire on 22 May UNRWA was able to access the camp to deliver essential relief supplies. Although the Agency's convoy came under fire, goods including bread, milk powder, water and essential medicines were distributed. ICRC has also been able to negotiate entry for medicines, food, bottled water and candles, whilst UNRWA is currently attempting to supply emergency water services through partners. Emergency teams are on stand-by to enter and assess needs as soon as the security situation allows. The Palestine Red Crescent, which has been able to access the camp to evacuate casualties, has also made deliveries of food, water and medical supplies.

Beddawi Camp: UNRWA has delivered food parcels, bread bundles and water to families displaced in Beddawi Camp, as well as a range of non-food items, including shelter supplies and hygiene kits. A number of local and international NGOs and organizations – including UN partners - have supported the aid effort, providing additional food, water, clothes, toys and other supplies, either directly or through contributions to UNRWA. Recreational activities are being organized for affected children and the Agency is coordinating its response to the specific needs of the disabled with other partners.

UNRWA has expanded health services in the camp, through extension of the opening hours of its regular health centre and the deployment of a mobile health team to the camp and surrounding areas. Additional staff and medical supplies have been deployed to the area as needed. Meanwhile, the Agency has signed contracts with a private pharmacy and an additional hospital, to ensure continued access for refugee patients to secondary and tertiary care and specialist medicines. Water and sanitation systems inside Beddawi camp are being strengthened, with additional back up resources deployed in order to bolster existing supply networks and ensure access to water in the event of overload.

All UN Agencies are providing coordinated support to UNRWA.

Rationale of the flash appeal

Under this Flash Appeal UNRWA is seeking \$12.6m to meet emergency refugee needs arising from the crisis until the end of August and to reimburse funds and resources already expended, including to UN partner agencies for in-kind support.

Assistance efforts are being planned on a rolling basis in a fluid and volatile operating environment with an uncertain planning horizon. From the start of the crisis the UN Resident Coordinator and Country Team have been providing coordinated support and technical backstopping to UNRWA leadership of the emergency response. Working through UN Country Team structures planned for emergency situations in the UN Contingency Plan, UNRWA is overseeing a broader humanitarian response in close cooperation with other assistance providers, such as local and international NGOs and the Red Cross movement. The UN Resident Coordinator continues to support UNRWA in coordinating the response efforts, and will, as needed, continue to place assets, both financial and human, to serve the ever-increasing demand for enhanced coordination.

In order to discharge its mandate effectively, UNRWA requires resources to respond to current and emerging refugee needs in an efficient and timely manner, including identifying and addressing any gaps in assistance. Financial requirements included herein are based on current estimates and may be revised once updated information is available and more detailed needs assessments have been conducted; funds received but not required under this Flash Appeal will be used either to establish an emergency buffer stock, thus enhancing preparedness for any future crises, or will contribute to the longer term recovery plan which UNRWA anticipates will be required to rebuild the lives and homes of the Palestine refugees of Nahr el Bared camp. Indeed, the initial assessment and planning work that will underpin the recovery effort is costed as part of this plan.

UNRWA is grateful for the material and technical support that has already been made available or pledged by UN partners, donors and other agencies, which has been crucial for delivery of assistance in the first few days of the crisis. Many UN agencies and NGOs will act as implementing partners for the Agency through this plan. UN agencies are also planning to submit an application to the Central Emergency Response Fund administered by OCHA.

Financial management

UNRWA is the appealing agency for all funds associated with the appeal, with the exception of those activities which will be managed by UNICEF. For administrative purposes, funds requested by UNICEF should be channeled directly to that Agency.

UNRWA will implement directly and through partners. As regards the latter, the Agency will reach agreement with partners on implementing modalities in the coming days and ensure that necessary administrative and financial arrangements are made.

Planning assumptions

Two weeks on from the start of the crisis, planning scenarios remain uncertain. Two humanitarian scenarios in the development of this Flash Appeal: (i) a protracted displacement of refugees from NBC and (ii) provision of assistance to refugees returning to NBC in the event that the current crisis is resolved. Each will require a different

humanitarian response, potentially involving different roles for different actors. Additional planning assumptions are detailed below:

- the current stand off between the Lebanese Army and Fatah Al Islam could continue for several weeks, preventing around 5,200 displaced families / 27,000 persons from returning to their homes.
- the current crisis will not spread to other camps within Lebanon but will be contained within NBC.
- widespread destruction of homes and infrastructure in NBC may prevent many families from returning home once hostilities cease, hence alternative accommodation and related arrangements for other services for the coming three months will be required.
- host families will require support to continue providing shelter to displaced families.
- additional humanitarian activities will be implemented outside the framework of this appeal.

The overall objective of the assistance effort is to meet the immediate life-saving needs of affected refugees and provide support necessary to ensure a safe return to NBC as soon as conditions allow.

Response plan

- **Food**

Aim: to guarantee adequate access to food for Palestine refugees affected by the crisis

Objectives:

- to distribute four rounds of food assistance to 5,200 displaced refugee families / 27,000 persons (20,800 parcels)
- to distribute two rounds of food assistance to 4,500 hosting families in Beddawi camp and other areas of Lebanon (9,000 parcels)
- to pre-position 1,000 food parcels as preparedness stocks
- provision of monthly parcels to 2,000 babies and infants aged 0 – 3 from NBC

Activities: UNRWA is seeking funds for four rounds of food assistance for 5,200 refugee families displaced from NBC, who currently do not have the financial means to provide for all daily needs. These families are currently sheltering with friends and relatives or in temporary displacement centres. UNRWA will also provide two rounds of food assistance as support for hosting families in Beddawi and elsewhere, many of whom are living in severe economic hardship with strained coping mechanisms.

Each parcel will cover approximately 800 kcals per day, or around 40% of daily recommended needs, based on UNRWA estimates of the amount of food affected refugees are currently unable to acquire from their own resources. Monthly distributions are planned for displaced refugees and bi-monthly distributions for host families; actual schedules will be adjusted on the basis of continued monitoring of food needs over the duration of the appeal. Assistance plans for host families will be amended in the event that displaced refugees do not remain with host families for the entire Flash Appeal period.

Special food parcels for babies and children under three years will be distributed and UNRWA is also seeking funding to cover the cost of milk and bread that has already been purchased and delivered to affected families in NBC and Beddawi camps.

Implementation: direct implementation by UNRWA.

Impact: food assistance provided through this flash appeal will enable affected refugee families to maintain minimal nutritional standards for health and well-being. The intervention will also relieve the burden placed on hosting families.

Budget:

Operating costs	\$2,290,227
Administrative costs (11%)	\$251,925
TOTAL	\$2,542,152

Non-food items

Aim: to ensure that displaced refugees have the basics for accommodating themselves during the period of their displacement outside NBC and the early period of their return.

Objectives:

- distribution of mattresses and related shelter supplies to up to 5,200 displaced families
- distribution of monthly hygiene kits to up to 5,200 displaced families
- distribution of kitchen kits to up to 5,200 displaced families
- provision of 700 baby / newborn kits
- provision of \$750,000 in selective emergency cash assistance to affected refugee families

Activities: emergency distributions of shelter supplies, including mattresses, pillows and covers as well as hygienic items (i.e. detergents, soap, disinfectant products, towels, etc), for displaced refugees from NBC are already underway, including in the form of in-kind assistance provided by donors and UN partner agencies. UNRWA is making provision for additional supplies in this appeal, to ensure that all displaced families have the supplies they need in their current place of shelter and for the coming 90 days and that the Agency is in a position to respond to emerging needs in a timely manner. Social workers will continue to monitor needs of affected families over the duration of the appeal and actual purchasing and distribution schedules will be adjusted accordingly.

A selective emergency cash reserve of \$750,000 is planned to ensure the Agency is equipped to deal with other emergency or crisis related needs of affected families, including those who have lost their source of income or whose breadwinner has sustained serious injury, or to cover funeral costs.

Implementation: directly by UNRWA with in-kind assistance from other UN organizations (UNFPA, UNHCR, UNICEF) and donors.

Impact: the provision of basic shelter supplies and emergency cash support will ensure a minimal level of dignity and well-being for affected refugee families.

Budget:

Operating costs	\$1,792,100
Administrative costs	\$197,131
TOTAL	\$1,989,231

Shelter

Aim: to ensure provision of temporary shelter and basic utility services to Palestine refugees forced to flee NBC as a result of the crisis, ensuring dignity, basic security and personal safety, as well as protection from the elements and resistance to disease.

Objectives:

- to provide direct shelter assistance to 5,200 refugee families displaced from NBC, including:
 - temporary shelter for displaced NBC families
 - immediate assessment of needs in areas where displaced refugees are being housed
 - immediate interventions for upgrading and preparation of shelters and displacement centres housing displaced refugees
 - stabilization of major damages inside NBC
 - primary repairs to UNRWA and non-UNRWA premises in areas where displaced refugees are being sheltered
 - rubble and land clearance activities in preparation for establishment of temporary shelters and to ensure access to water and electricity networks.

Activities: the population of Beddawi camp has swollen from 16,000 to 37,000 as a direct result of the crisis. Large numbers of host houses are overcrowded and families staying in UNRWA schools in and around the camp do not have adequate shelter or necessary facilities. Immediate servicing and monitoring of private and public buildings in Beddawi camp and other areas where displaced refugees are being supported is planned to prevent the failure of existing structures, buildings and utilities. Attention will be given to electrical networks and the structural stability of the buildings, particularly in the event that temporary extensions and / or water tanks are added to buildings. Necessary support will also be given to hosting families to enable them to maintain a minimum standard of living conditions.

Options are also under consideration for temporary housing of displaced refugees currently sheltering in Beddawi camp.

It is assumed that displaced persons will return to the camp as soon as fighting ends, in some cases returning to dangerous shelters. UNRWA will therefore ensure that suitable temporary shelters are available to provide minimum and dignified living standards to those in distress, with the aim of ensuring that refugees can return to the camp as early as possible.

Needs for initial assessment and planning for shelter reconstruction efforts in NBC are covered in the *Immediate Post Conflict Support* component of this appeal below.

Plans for the shelter sector are continuing to evolve to fit with emerging needs, and are being developed in the shelter cluster of international NGOs and UN agencies. Project implementation will be handled by a number of partners, mainly NGOs - national, Palestinian and international – and UN agencies. Objectives and related activities have been broadly defined, but the roles of participating agencies will vary depending on the humanitarian scenario that unfolds.

Implementation: some activities under this intervention will be implemented by UNRWA directly and others through implementing partners.

Impact: through these interventions, UNRWA will ensure an adequate, secure and dignified standard of temporary shelter for displaced refugee families.

Budget:

Operating costs	\$775,000
Administrative costs (11%)	\$85,250
TOTAL	\$860,250

Water and sanitation:

Aim: to ensure adequate and safe water supplies for Palestine refugees affected by the crisis in NBC.

Objectives:

- to provide water and sanitation services for approximately 27,000 refugees / 5,200 families displaced from NBC
- to maintain and repair water and supporting power networks to ensure continuity of services for affected families
- to provide garbage and waste removal services for affected families
- to provide necessary support to water networks in homes and displacement centres housing displaced refugees
- to ensure a water disaster response team is available on stand-by to address immediate emergency needs in NBC and Beddawi camps
- to provide emergency drinking water and sanitation services for refugees trapped inside NBC and for any that return during the period of the flash appeal
- To ensure water quality control

Activities: UNRWA and partners will ensure that all water needs for displaced persons are met over the next 90 days. Although assessments indicate that wells inside Beddawi camp are currently able to meet water needs for displaced persons, systems are overloaded and this plan includes provision for stand-by water services in the event of a breakdown, through the availability on stand-by of a water disaster response team. It is envisaged that this support will be made available by a donor government; hence, no

budget figure is attached. Plans also include the provision of water through tankers and appropriate distribution systems as well as bottled water, if necessary.

UNRWA will daily assess garbage and sanitation needs in Beddawi Camp. Additional equipment and related staffing for sewage and waste management in public places is also planned.

UNRWA will provide services to private houses and displacement centres to ensure continued access to water supplies and alleviate stress on host families. Actions to reinforce existing infrastructure at displaced centres which do not have proper showers or sufficient toilets and the necessary facilities for cleanliness are also envisaged. Disease control facilities and disinfection materials will be placed on stand-by, whilst water testing quality kits will be provided through partners.

Provision is made for fuel for water pumps inside camps and for the replacement of an UNRWA water tanker which was lost when the Agency's convoy inside NBC was attacked. Steps will also be taken to upgrade the electricity system in Beddawi camp; due to serious overload, the risk of fire is assessed to be high. In concert with UN partners, plans will be developed for the installation of temporary electricity networks in areas where displaced refugees are sheltered, and also for necessary network repairs.

As with the shelter sector, plans are evolving to fit emerging needs. A range of response options are being developed within the water and sanitation cluster. Project implementation will be handled by a number of partners. The activities conducted by participating agencies will vary depending on the humanitarian scenario that unfolds.

Implementation: some activities in this sector will be implemented by UNRWA and others by implementing partners, including UNDP. UNICEF is also seeking funds, including for activities already implemented.

Impact: this intervention will ensure displaced refugee families have sufficient safe drinking water and sanitation and solid waste disposal facilities. Rapid response to any crisis needs will mitigate public and environmental health risks for the affected refugee population.

Budget:

UNRWA operating costs	\$942,000
Administrative costs (11%)	\$103,620
Sub total	\$1,045,620
UNICEF costs	\$700,000
TOTAL	\$1,745,620

Education

Aim: to minimize disruption to schooling for refugee pupils in UNRWA schools in NBC and Beddawi camps.

Objectives:

- to implement a remedial plan for 1,087 UNRWA pupils from North Lebanon Area due to sit official Brevet and Bacculaureate II examinations this summer
- to implement a remedial plan for 8,655 affected refugee pupils who have lost schooling days as a result of the crisis
- to provide clothing and meals assistance for 282 students of the Siblin Training Centre from NLA who have lost clothing and other belongings

Activities: 1,087 UNRWA pupils in North Lebanon Area are due to sit official Brevet and Bacculaureate II examinations at the end of June and beginning of July, including 674 pupils from NBC and smaller numbers from Beddawi and Tripoli town. Pupils from NBC have fled their homes without textbooks and stationary, whilst schools in Beddawi are being used as displacement centres and may not be available for the pupils who normally study there

Alternative arrangements will be made to enable affected pupils to sit examinations in Tripoli town. UNRWA aims to provide pupils with necessary supplies, including textbooks, bags/stationary for those who have fled NBC and transport to temporary schools in Tripoli town, as well as meals for all affected students to support them during this disruptive period of study. Funds are also sought for school supplies and running costs for schools in Tripoli town that will be overburdened by the additional load of pupils, as well as a small contribution for overtime for teachers

The Agency plans to implement a remedial plan for 8,655 UNRWA pupils in other grades at schools in the area who have lost an average of 24 schooling days due to the crisis.

Working with partners, UNRWA will expand existing programmes to train teachers and counselors in stress management and Post Traumatic Stress Disorder.

Implementation: UNRWA, with support from UNICEF

Impact: full implementation of this intervention will mitigate the educational impact of the crisis on refugee students, with a particular focus on those facing public examinations over the coming period.

Budget:

UNRWA operating costs	\$1,707,445
Administrative costs (11%)	\$187,819
Sub total	\$1,895,264
UNICEF costs	\$200,000
TOTAL	\$2,095,264

Health:

Aim: to guarantee continued access to health services for refugees displaced from NBC, including specialist care at contracted hospitals, and respond to increased demand for services in Beddawi camp.

Objectives:

- to ensure basic health services to approximately 27,000 refugees / 5,200 families displaced from NBC camp and ensure any emerging health needs are addressed
- to meet needs for hospitalization, including for referrals of refugee casualties from the crisis, through provision of 30 beds per night at a specially contracted hospital
- to provide outpatient support through alternative radiology and laboratory services to refugees in North Lebanon, who normally access services in NBC
- to assist in the provision of specialist medication for refugees unable to cover the costs due to the crisis
- to provide vitamin supplements for pregnant and nursing women, through in-kind support from UN partner organizations
- to provide emergency reproductive health commodities such as delivery kits, blood transfusion kits, etc. particularly in IDP centres
- to provide emergency health coverage for refugees returning to NBC in the event that existing facilities are unfit for use, including reproductive health commodities
- to monitor infant and child nutritional status

Activities: UNRWA is seeking to cover the costs of delivery of medical services to displaced refugees NBC for three months, including medical supplies, equipment and related staffing needs. This will ensure access to health for refugees who normally receive such care through UNRWA's health centre in NBC. The Agency has already expanded medical services in Beddawi camp to cope with additional pressure, through extension of operating hours of the Agency's health centre there and the deployment of a mobile health clinic. Provision of medications to contain possible outbreaks of disease in crowded conditions in Beddawi camp area and for chronic diseases to needy patients from NBC who do not have access to their own medications is also included. WHO has pre-positioned one trauma kit and provided in-kind support.

The Agency will pay for life saving medications not available on its medical supply catalogue for refugees unable to cover the costs of such treatment due to their displacement. A contract has already been concluded with a private pharmacy in Beddawi camp to supply such medications over a three month period.

As a result of the crisis, refugees from North Lebanon are unable to access the two hospitals contracted by UNRWA for the provision of secondary patient care; one of the two hospitals cannot be reached for security reasons, whilst the other is only admitting casualties. The Agency has therefore had to make alternative arrangements with a third hospital for provision of hospital support over the coming three months. Hospitalization costs of refugees forced to flee to other areas of Lebanon are also covered.

UNRWA also plans to provide vitamin supplements for pregnant and nursing women, through in-kind support from UN partner organizations.

Implementation: UNRWA, with support from WHO, UNFPA and UNICEF

Impact: this intervention will ensure continued access to basic and secondary health services for Palestine refugees directly and indirectly affected by the current crisis, by guaranteeing availability of medical supplies and provision of specialist support.

Budget:

UNRWA operating costs	\$1,380,375
Administrative costs (11%)	\$151,841
Sub total	\$1,532,216
UNICEF costs	\$150,000
TOTAL	\$1,682,216

Protection:

Aim: to meet the immediate protection needs of refugees affected by the crisis in NBC, including children

Objectives:

- to promote the protection of affected refugees, with a particular focus on women and children and refugees in temporary displacement centres
- to ensure access to shelters and essential services and facilitate the return of displaced refugees to NBC through the disposal of unexploded ordnance (UXO)
- raise awareness about the dangers of UXO
- to provide psycho-social support to children, focusing on recreation and structured play, and ensure that children are protected from violence and abuse
- monitor child protection issues, including monitoring for separated children and the status of the most vulnerable

Activities: with support from partners UNRWA will mount awareness raising activities for refugees affected by the crisis and hosting communities, with a particular focus on Beddawi camp. Various tools will be used, including workshops at community centres, distribution of awareness-raising materials including posters, flyers and booklets and use of the media.

Working through implementing partners, the Agency will provide reproductive health drugs to affected refugee women and will introduce programmes of psycho-social support for women and young girls, with a particular focus on temporary displacement centres where needs are assessed to be greatest. Technical assistance from other UN agencies is also available in the implementation of these activities, including for an assessment of women's protection needs in NBC and Beddawi and the assignment of clinical psychologists to provide treatment and make referrals.

UNICEF is planning psycho-social and child protection interventions, aimed at ensuring that refugee children are protected from violence, abuse and involvement in armed activities. Recreational and structured play opportunities will be offered, whilst an awareness raising campaign about UXO danger will also be mounted. UNICEF will also monitor child protection issues, including for the most vulnerable (girls, disabled and others).

UNRWA estimates that significant amounts of unexploded ordnance remain inside NBC which could cause serious injury or death after the cessation of military activities. These

explosives can hinder the return of camp residents and prevent the establishment of essential services. With support from partners, UNRWA is seeking to fund a project to provide immediate reconnaissance to affected areas to determine the extent of contamination, and provide immediate explosive ordnance disposal services to mitigate the impact of the problem.

Implementation: UNRWA, with support from UNDP, UNFPA and UNICEF

Impact: empowerment of the community through their participation in activities that address urgent protection needs. Provision of targeted assistance to women and children will help to mitigate the immediate effects of the crisis on some of the most vulnerable.

Budget:

UNRWA operating costs	\$160,000
Administrative costs (11%)	\$17,600
Sub total	\$177,600
UNICEF costs	\$150,000
TOTAL	\$327,600

Coordination and security

Aim: to enhance UNRWA's capacity to respond to the crisis in Nahr El Bared camp, through strengthened coordination and security and communication networks.

Objectives:

- ensure UNRWA has the necessary security and communications resources to deliver an effective relief response in North Lebanon
- to improve coordination with other relief actors and ensure an integrated response to the crisis
- strengthen UNRWA's ability to meet public information needs arising from the crisis, including the local community, other relief partners, media and other stakeholders

Activities: communications and other equipment needs are covered under this appeal, including security equipment such as flak jackets, fire extinguishers and uniforms, to upgrade current UNRWA systems and improve links between the Lebanon Field Office and North Lebanon and ensure that staff involved in the delivery of emergency assistance are able to divest their duties safely. Technical support is also available from a UN partner agency to enhance communications security and improve UNRWA's capacity to lead UNCT cluster groups and coordinate effectively with NGOs and to monitor pipeline and procurement issues.

UNRWA is seeking funds for the continued operation of a Camp Information Office in Beddawi to strengthen communications with stakeholders including community members, beneficiaries, other relief partners and the media, and keep relevant parties informed of the Agency's activities and plans.

Implementation: UNRWA, with technical assistance from WFP.

Impact: these resources will enhance UNRWA's ability to meet emergency needs effectively and safely, and ensure that relief efforts remain coordinated with other actors.

Budget:

UNRWA operating costs	\$445,325
Administrative costs (11%)	\$48,986
TOTAL	\$494,311

Immediate post conflict support

Aims and objectives: to prepare the groundwork for post-crisis recovery in NBC for affected refugee families, including immediate repairs to affected shelters, private buildings and public infrastructure in NBC.

Activities: the Flash Appeal includes a limited component for early recovery, with costs related to immediate assessment and planning, initial and essential upgrading of services in the camps and capacity building requirements. An integrated assessment, making use of UN system methodology and involving relevant partners, is envisaged, aimed at identifying financial requirements for the rehabilitation of NBC and agreeing on priorities. This will include coverage of shelter recovery needs, as well as minor repairs to houses and commercial units. The Agency and its partners will also implement immediate repairs to infrastructure, including electricity networks, domestic water lines and sanitation facilities.

A small provision is made in this appeal for small grants to affected businesses to reactivate and support economic revival.

Impact: successful implementation of early recovery activities under this flash appeal will establish the foundation for the longer term recovery and development plan for Palestine refugees from NBC.

Implementation: UNRWA, with support from UNDP, ILO and UNICEF

Budget:

UNRWA operating costs	\$500,000
Administrative costs (11%)	\$55,000
TOTAL	\$555,000

Operational support:

Aim: to enhance UNRWA's capacity to respond to the crisis in Nahr El Bared camp, including strengthened coordination and management.

Objectives:

- ensure UNRWA has the necessary staffing, equipment and logistics to manage the crisis response and assess and meet refugee needs in a timely and efficient manner
- enable the continued functioning of UNRWA emergency response unit in North Lebanon, including staffing, facilities and equipment

Activities: the crisis in NBC is placing significant strain on UNRWA's resources, potentially affecting its ability to deliver regular activities to the registered refugee population in Lebanon as well as meeting prevailing emergency needs in the affected area.

Overtime for critical members of staff who are required to work excessive hours to cope with the emergency is covered under this flash appeal, as are expenses for emergency accommodation for critical staff, both Palestinian and international, who have been temporarily redeployed to North Lebanon Area. This includes those staff working at a specially created Emergency Response Unit in Tripoli.

Impact: these resources will ensure UNRWA is able to meet immediate emergency needs and implement all activities planned in this appeal efficiently and effectively.

Budget:

UNRWA operating costs	\$335,000
Administrative costs (11%)	\$36,850
TOTAL	\$371,850

Flash appeal budget summary

Sector	Cost / US\$
Food	2,542,152
Non-food items	1,989,231
Shelter	860,250
Water and Sanitation	1,745,620
Education	2,095,264
Health	1,682,216
Protection	327,600
Coordination and security	494,311
Immediate post-conflict support	555,000
Operational support	371,850
TOTAL	12,663,494

Note: this includes \$11,463,494 for which UNRWA is appealing for interventions that will be implemented directly by the Agency and implementing partners and \$1,200,000 which should be channeled directly to UNICEF.