UNICEF's work

The past 18 months have been tough for children in Lebanon. The COVID-19 pandemic, the economic crash and the Beirut Port explosions have devastated lives and livelihoods, leaving families struggling to survive. But they haven’t been alone. UNICEF has been there to lend a hand children and their families.

COVID-19 Response

The number one priority has been to safeguard the health of families from COVID-19. The pandemic left societies around the world scrambling to respond. In Lebanon UNICEF has been working with partners to provide supplies both for the vaccination campaign in 2021 and the response to the pandemic since March 2020, to provide people with the best and most up-to-date information and to protect frontline health workers.

We reached 3.4 million people with critical prevention messages and how to access services. We have supplied more than 2,400 frontline health-care workers with COVID-19 personal protective equipment (PPE) and equipped more than 200 health care facilities with COVID-19 infection prevention and control (IPC) and PPE materials. UNICEF also supported the public school system with COVID-19 prevention measures to create a safer environment for children.
Economic Crisis

At the same time UNICEF refocused its efforts to support families caught up in the economic crisis. In the past year, the Lebanese currency went into freefall and inflation has eaten into wages and savings through consumer price increases for basic goods and services. More than half of Lebanese families are in poverty and the situation among Syrian refugees is even worse.

UNICEF is responding by enhancing its social protection programme, including the launch of a UNICEF Child Grants program, “Haddi,” for 70,000 Lebanese, Palestinian and Syrian vulnerable children. We are also working closely with the Lebanese national authorities, the ILO and other partners to strengthen the national social protection system by establishing social grants for the most vulnerable persons.
The Beirut Port explosions

The explosions in August 2020 left an estimated 100,000 children affected by damage in their homes, injuries, and over 600,000 living in the area needed psychosocial support. We continue to work with partners to get life back to normal for families. We provided humanitarian assistance, including a one-off cash grant that was provided to 80,000 children and vulnerable individuals, health and nutrition supplies, psychosocial support to children, and access to water, sanitation and hygiene. We support the reconstruction of damaged schools and health facilities, and income generation opportunities for young people who support affected families.
**UNICEF results 2020-2021**

### Health and Nutrition

- UNICEF is supporting the National Deployment and Vaccination Plan for COVID-19 Vaccines.
- UNICEF is providing cold chain maintenance and equipment including three new ultra cold freezers, PPE to health care staff at the vaccination sites and commodities for vaccinations.
- Providing 100,000 children and women with essential health care including prenatal, delivery and postnatal care, essential newborn care, immunization, treatment of childhood illness and HIV care.
- 360,479 vaccinated against measles and polio.
- More than 45,700 children under 5 provided with nutrition supplements.
- UNICEF is contributing to the rehabilitation of the Karantina Hospital, the Central Supply and Drugs Warehouse and its cold chain.

### Education

- 426,822 vulnerable children given access to formal education.
- 27,292 children out of formal school provided non-formal remote learning opportunities.
- UNICEF is supporting the refurbishment and replacement of damaged furniture and laboratory equipment for 90 public schools affected by the explosions.
- 42 education institutions rehabilitated.
- Supporting all children to return to learning and supporting the safe reopening of schools.

### Child Protection

- 20,589 children and adults given access to safe and accessible channels to report sexual exploitation.
- 7,971 boys and girls assisted through child protection case management and specialized services.
- 29,830 women and girls accessing mobile and safe spaces.
- 33,000 people coping with the psychological impact of the Beirut Port explosions have received support.
UNICEF Representative, Yukie Mokuo, with UNICEF Supply staff at a warehouse in Lebanon checking on the arrival of COVID-19 supplies. UNICEF has procured and delivered medical supplies to over 200 Primary Health Care Centres, and private and public hospitals to support health-care frontline workers and people at risk in Lebanon. UNICEF has also procured detergent, soap and bleach for social development centres and public schools.

**Social Protection**

- One-off emergency cash grant to 80,000 vulnerable children and individuals affected by the explosions.
- 70,000 vulnerable children affected by the economic crisis across the country received a one-off cash grant in 2020. In addition, 5,000 vulnerable children are receiving monthly social assistance, as part of an integrated service package. An additional one-off cash transfer reached 10,000 refugee children enrolled in public schools in February 2021.
- In June 2021, UNICEF launched an integrated child grant, known as “Haddi” that will reach 70,000 vulnerable Lebanese, Syrian and Palestinian children affected by the economic crisis and COVID-19, through monthly social assistance integrated with services.

**Water, Sanitation and Hygiene**

- Supplies, consumables and repairs to secure water and sanitation services for up to 4 million refugees and Lebanese.
- 197,060 people affected by the explosions provided with access to improved safe sanitation in temporary locations.
- More than 195,000 affected people assisted with temporary access to safe water for drinking and domestic use.
- Water and wastewater services to more than 150,000 Syrian refugees in informal settlements, including 75,000 children.
Youth and Adolescent Development

- 16,817 vulnerable adolescents given access to formal Technical and Vocational Education and Training (TVET).

- 21,457 young people supported with learning, skills training and innovation/business training.

- Employment support service and Cash for Work opportunities to 8,331 trained youth.

- 5,738 vulnerable adolescents and youth provided access to an integrated package of non-formal education and training opportunities and employment support services.

- Minor repair and rehabilitation provided for more than 1,000 households in poor communities and affected by the Beirut explosions.

- Support the TVET hybrid learning through the development of a distance learning strategy and the set-up of 15 digital TVET schools.

- Up to 27,547 adolescent and youth supported with life skills training, including mental health support.

Communication for Development

- 3,400,000 people reached with COVID-19 messaging on prevention and access to services.

- Addressing COVID-19 vaccine hesitancy, disinformation and demand.