

# NRC's operations in Lebanon

## Humanitarian overview

Lebanon remains the country hosting the largest number of refugees per capita: an estimated 1.5 million Syrian refugees and an estimated 257,000 Palestinian refugees. Lebanon continues to be affected by a colossal economic crisis and an uncertain political atmosphere.

In the last three years the currency has lost more than 95 per cent of its value. Over half of the Lebanese population is currently living below the national poverty line. For Syrian refugees, the figure is even higher, with nine out of ten refugee families currently living in extreme poverty.

After nearly of year of instability concentrated along the southern border, Israel dramatically escalated its use of force from September to November 2024. This conflict displaced 1.2 million individuals. The World Bank estimates that recovery and reconstruction needs will total US\$11 billion.

Following political changes in Syria at the end of 2024, some Syrian refugees have begun returning home to rebuild their lives. But movement in the opposite direction is also increasing, with tens of thousands of new arrivals from Syria seeking safety in Lebanon.



## Our core activities



Education



Information, counselling  
and legal assistance (ICLA)



Livelihoods  
and food security



Shelter  
and settlements



Water, sanitation  
and hygiene (WASH)

### NRC in Lebanon

Established	2006
International staff	9
National staff	284

## Our areas of operation

- Beirut
- Mount Lebanon
- South
- North
- Bekaa



## Our activities in detail

NRC supports people affected by conflict and displacement along with host communities, and is a strong voice for the protection and rights of the refugees, navigating a tense operating environment.

NRC emphasises partnering with local and central authorities and develops long-term partnerships with local NGOs. At the community level, NRC operations favour a participatory approach and have a conflict-sensitive lens.

NRC is supporting Syrian and Palestinian refugees, vulnerable and displaced Lebanese citizens, and migrants through the programmes listed below.



9,340 people reached in 2024 ▼

### Education

NRC in Lebanon implements programming in our learning centres and in areas with high numbers of displaced children. Our education activities include:

- supporting access and transition to formal education through non-formal education programmes and school retention support
- training teachers and enhancing their techniques
- raising awareness of parents on the importance of education and their involvement in their children's learning
- Education in Emergencies activities, including the Better Learning Programme



80,845 people reached in 2024 ▼

### Information, counselling and legal assistance (ICLA)

NRC in Lebanon's legal protection programme aims to improve the access to rights and essential services for refugees, displaced Lebanese citizens, migrant workers and other displaced people. NRC has developed a digital platform (KoBLI) that facilitates the contact and information sharing with people who approach us. Our ICLA activities include:

- supporting access to civil documentation, including the registration of life events, legal residency, and housing land and property (HLP) rights
- conflict dispute resolution including in the context of housing disputes
- legal assistance and representation for refugees through lawyers

- due diligence, confirming property ownership or usage rights
- training sessions to stakeholders on legal topics
- targeted legal advocacy and policy work



**3,148 people reached in 2024 ▼**

## Livelihoods and food security

NRC in Lebanon works with the most vulnerable and displacement-affected to ensure they can exercise their right to an adequate standard of living, including access to healthy food and livelihoods protection and growth.

With the goal of promoting greater self-reliance in communities, the LFS activities include:

- supporting farmers and MSMEs to create employment opportunities for youth through sustainable agricultural projects, innovative entrepreneurship initiatives, skills-building activities, and job placement programmes
- strengthening local markets by supporting communal projects and promoting sustainable, locally-driven initiatives that benefit both farming and business sectors
- enhancing the agriculture value chain and food production markets by strengthening national institutions to provide the necessary support for farmers, food producers and businesses across the value chain



**52,377 people reached in 2024 ▼**

## Shelter and settlements

NRC in Lebanon's shelter and settlement programme aims to facilitate access to safe, dignified and adequate housing for the most vulnerable, through programmes at the individual, household and community levels. Our shelter activities include:

- integrated housing and neighbourhood upgrades following a settlement-based approach (SBA)
- supporting municipalities in terms of disaster risk reduction and disaster risk management
- emergency shelter interventions, including quick fix upgrades of sites hosting displaced families, integrating privacy, protection and accessibility requirements
- cash for rent assistance for vulnerable families
- housing maintenance and upgrades in exchange for various rental schemes (rent-freeze, rent reduction, rent-free or occupancy free of charge)



**137,236 people reached in 2024 ▼**

## Water, sanitation and hygiene (WASH)

NRC in Lebanon works with communities and public service providers to expand water, sanitation and hygiene services for vulnerable population groups. Our WASH activities include:

- integrating adequate water, sanitation and hygiene facilities into our shelter interventions
- comprehensive emergency WASH activities for access to safe water, WASH facilities and WASH items
- water, wastewater and hygiene interventions in the informal tented settlements and collective sites.
- piloting and promoting more sustainable water and wastewater solutions for vulnerable communities
- supporting solid waste management at the municipality level
- promoting community-based water governance to enhance accountability, participation, and sustainability in WASH service delivery
- rehabilitating WASH facilities in public schools to support safe and healthy learning environments for children

## Emergency response

NRC in Lebanon is active in emergency response, and in 2024, reached 84,257 individuals, through a multi-sectoral response, including:

- provision of core relief items
- upgrade and rehabilitation of collective sites hosting displaced families to SPHERE standards with a focus on WASH and Shelter activities
- partnerships with local NGOs to provide in-kind food to collective sites.
- cash assistance in the form of cash for shelter, cash for basic assistance and cash for food

Since December 2024, NRC has also been responding to newly arrived communities arriving from Syria.

NRC in Lebanon has invested in capacity to scale up its emergency response to respond to emerging crises.

## Youth

NRC's youth programme supports both refugee and Lebanese youth with structured, quality learning opportunities to facilitate their transition to livelihoods, improve social engagement and facilitate advanced education. We prioritise youth who are not enrolled in any form of education, employment or training (NEET) since this group is particularly at risk of both labour market and social exclusion. Youth activities include:

- competency-based technical and vocational training and life skills courses
- information and communication technologies (ICT) and accredited online courses
- stackable accredited English language courses in collaboration with Arizona State University (ASU)
- recreational and social activities
- post-graduation on-the-job training and youth-led community initiatives

## Our donors

**We are grateful for the generous support from our donors:**

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- French Development Agency (AFD)
- UN Office for the Coordination of the Humanitarian Affairs (OCHA)
- LEGO Foundation

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