

NRC's operations in Lebanon

Humanitarian overview

Lebanon's humanitarian situation in 2025–2026 is the result of overlapping crises that have left the country in a state of profound fragility.

At the same time, Lebanon continues to host one of the largest refugee populations in the world relative to its size. More than 1.1 million Syrian refugees and 230,000 Palestinian refugees reside in the country, even though more than half a million are assumed to have returned to Syria in recent years.

Following the change in government in December 2024, an additional 120,000 Syrians crossed into Lebanon, further straining already fragile infrastructure in remote and underserved areas.

Israeli military actions have compounded the crisis, with near-daily strikes in 2025 killing over 300 people, including civilians. These attacks destroyed homes, farmland, and infrastructure, leaving communities trapped between poverty and insecurity.



Photo: Zaynab Mayladan/NRC

Our core activities



Education



Information, counselling
and legal assistance (ICLA)



Shelter
and settlements



Water, sanitation
and hygiene (WASH)

NRC Lebanon

With a presence across Beirut, Mount Lebanon, the South, North, and Bekaa regions, NRC works in multiple critical sectors.

Established	2006
International staff	9
National staff	244

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.



6,314 people reached in 2025 ▼

Education

NRC 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



75,993 people reached in 2025 ▼

Information, counselling and legal assistance (ICLA)

NRC 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. Our ICLA activities include:

- supporting access to key documentation, including civil documentation (such as birth certificates and other life events), as well as 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



19,191 people reached in 2025 ▼

Shelter and settlements

NRC 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 through a neighbourhood-based approach
- emergency shelter interventions, including quick fix upgrades of sites hosting displaced families, integrating privacy, protection and accessibility requirements
- protection-centred cash-for-rent assistance for vulnerable families
- housing maintenance and upgrades in exchange for various rental schemes (rent-free, rent reduction, rent-free or occupancy free of charge)



177,346 people reached in 2025 ▼

Water, sanitation and hygiene (WASH)

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

- improving sustainable access to safe water and sanitation services through the rehabilitation and upgrade of WASH infrastructure (including water supply systems, boreholes, pumping stations, and wastewater networks)
- 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.

- 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

2,364 people reached in 2025 ▼

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
- accredited information and communication technologies (ICT) and online courses
- stackable accredited language courses
- recreational and social activities

c. 21,660 people reached in 2025

Emergency response

NRC's emergency response targeted communities affected by conflict across the country. Our response is inclusive, targeting Lebanese, Syrian, and other nationalities 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 (cash for shelter, cash for basic assistance and cash for food)

Our donors

We are grateful for the generous support from our donors:

- Norad
- Swedish International Development Cooperation Agency (Sida)
- Germany through the German Development Bank (KfW)
- Directorate-General for European Civil Protection and Humanitarian Aid Operations (ECHO)
- Swiss Agency for Development and Cooperation (SDC)
- European Union
- German Federal Foreign Office (GFFO)
- French Development Agency (AFD)
- UN Office for the Coordination of the Humanitarian Affairs (OCHA)
- ARADA Foundation
- The Big Heart Foundation
- Danish Cooperation

Localisation and partnerships

NRC believes that working with local organisations is essential to achieving sustainable services in Lebanon:

- The Lebanese Women Democratic Gathering (RDFL)
- Basmeh & Zeitoonh Relief & Development (B&Z)
- Lebanese Center for Human Rights (CLDH)
- Social Innovation Hub (SHIFT)
- Amel Association
- Mouvement Social
- Tripoli Entrepreneurs Club (TEC)



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