

📍 LEBANON:

BEIRUT PORT EXPLOSION

ONE YEAR LATER

 International
Medical Corps





EMERGENCY OVERVIEW

On August 4, 2020, a massive explosion ripped through Beirut, Lebanon—so powerful that it registered as a 3.5 magnitude earthquake.



MORE THAN
220 DEAD



MORE THAN
6,500 INJURED



APPROXIMATELY
300,000 DISPLACED



36%
OF HEALTH FACILITIES DAMAGED



STORIES FROM THE FIELD

“

Looking for my family members, then finding them injured was something terrifying and shocking for both my family and me. I rushed my family to the basement in case another blast was going to happen. I only see such things in movies—it was unbelievable.”

— **Sarkis, a community member**

“

My 4-year-old daughter stopped talking and still doesn't talk since August 4. I try, her father tries and her siblings try, but no matter how many times we try to get her to talk, she refuses to utter any words. Her hair, and my hair too, is falling at an alarming rate. My boys were really scared and started asking why there was an explosion—we ran from this in Syria and we are getting the same? Is the war coming back?”

— **A mother in Lebanon who chooses to remain anonymous**



COMPOUNDING EMERGENCIES

This emergency situation compounded multiple, pre-existing crises affecting Lebanon:



SYRIAN REFUGEE CRISIS

Lebanon hosts the largest refugee per capita population in the world



COVID-19 PANDEMIC

Total number of confirmed cases increased exponentially following the blast, from fewer than 5,000 before the explosion to more than 115,000, within 3 months



FINANCIAL AND ECONOMIC CRISIS

Up to 55% of the population are living below the poverty line



CIVIL UNREST

Political instability and protests have affected the country since October 2019



UNDERFUNDED HEALTHCARE SECTOR

Crises and funding shortfalls have put the system under increased pressure



INTERNATIONAL MEDICAL CORPS RESPONDS

Within the **first two weeks**, we reached more than **54,300** women, men and children by:



Delivering **medical supplies and personal protective equipment (PPE)** to **19 primary healthcare clinics and eight hospitals**



Providing **PPE to more than 2,000 health workers, first responders and volunteers**, to help protect them from COVID-19



Conducting **530 primary healthcare consultations** and **delivering psychological first aid to 450 people** through mobile medical units

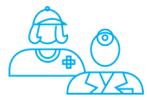


Distributing **more than 670 hygiene kits** to keep families and communities safe and thwart the spread of disease



HEALTHCARE

With more than one-third of health facilities damaged, those that remained open were overwhelmed by patients affected by the blast and COVID-19. Medical storage facilities were heavily damaged, causing acute shortages of vital medicines and supplies. We:



Provided **525,942** health consultations



Distributed **4,605,840** pieces of PPE and infection prevention and control supplies, such as masks, gloves, bandages and sanitizer



Supplied **87** facilities with medical supplies and PPE



Distributed **29,313** hygiene kits

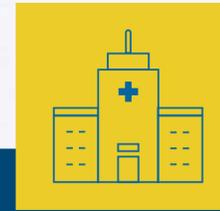


Provided **184,213** medications, such as paracetamol and zinc citrate



Distributed **4,860** pieces of medical equipment, including pulse oximeters, thermometers, otoscopes and stethoscopes





HEALTH FACILITY REHABILITATION

THREE PRIMARY HEALTHCARE CENTERS (PHCCS) REHABILITATED



**KARAGUEZIAN
PHCC**



**VOIX DE LA
FEMME**



**AL ZAHRAA
PHCC**



Health facilities are now offering much-needed healthcare services to members of the most vulnerable communities in Lebanon



HEALTHCARE INNOVATIONS: COVID-19 HOMECARE MODEL

NEED:



Hospitals at
90%–95% capacity as
COVID-19 cases surged

RESPONSE:



International Medical Corps treated
COVID-19 patients with mild to moderate
confirmed and suspected cases at home as
hospitals were overwhelmed



**1,077 PATIENTS
REACHED**

with COVID-19 homecare



SERVING PEOPLE WITH DISABILITIES (PWD)

NEED:



Due to the blast, the livelihoods of many disabled people were significantly affected; many lost their jobs and reliable access to healthcare as a result of the explosion

RESPONSE:



- ▶ **7,298** physiotherapy sessions
- ▶ **112** occupational therapy sessions
- ▶ **752** speech therapy sessions
- ▶ **16,182** assistive devices provided, including hearing aids, visual aids, eyeglasses, mobility devices and more



STORIES FROM THE FIELD

“

“We could not find my mom at first; then we found her under the couch, speechless and unable to move. My mother was not only in physical pain, but also emotional pain because of what happened.”

— Aurore



In response, International Medical Corps provided mental health and psychosocial support for both Aurore and her mother.



MENTAL HEALTH AND PSYCHOSOCIAL SUPPORT

After a traumatic event, common mental health conditions include physical, emotional, cognitive and behavioral reactions. Longer-term effects may include depression, severe anxiety disorders and post-traumatic stress disorder. Following the blast, we:



Provided **2,556 psychological first aid** sessions



Referred **562 individuals** for higher levels of mental health care



Trained **191 frontline workers** to provide psychosocial support and basic care



Provided **10,259 in-person and remote mental health consultations**



Educated **3,499 people** about mental health, including signs, symptoms, management and steps to seek care



STORIES FROM THE FIELD

“

*I've lived in the city for the past 10 years. This is my first emergency that I am responding to as a resident,” says **Rima Bakri, International Medical Corps' Communications Manager in Lebanon.***

“Thankfully, my family and I were all okay; however, thousands of other were not. Our Lebanon team has been able to provide thousands of people affected by the blast with healthcare services following this traumatic event. We're treating wounds, and the mental health team is available to provide psychological first aid to all those affected. The support that International Medical Corps has received from all over the world has been tremendous and has made a huge difference. We're very, very grateful.”



ADDRESSING GENDER-BASED VIOLENCE

Many of those displaced included women and girls, who had to live with extended relatives or strangers—increasing their risk of abuse and potential exploitation. In response, we:



Provided 806 consultations to prevent and address gender-based violence (GBV) needs



Distributed 4,473 dignity kits and psychosocial support kits, which include shampoo, sanitary napkins, flashlights, knitting needles, wool threads and more



Reached 2,327 people through awareness-raising sessions to protect those who are vulnerable, including women and girls



WOMEN'S EMPOWERMENT TRAINING



The explosion came in the midst of the country's economic and monetary collapse. In response, International Medical Corps launched empowerment training targeted to help women by providing income-generating opportunities.



We reached

32 WOMEN

with education on livelihoods planning and entrepreneurship



INTERNATIONAL MEDICAL CORPS IN LEBANON

- Launched programs in **2006**
- Served approximately **44,000 individuals with healthcare** and **1,300 people with mental health care** every month in 2020
- First NGO** to begin providing health services for Syrian refugees in North Lebanon in 2011
- Support **70+ primary healthcare facilities and hospitals** in Great Tripoli, Akkar, Beirut and Mount Lebanon, Bekaa and the South



THANK YOU TO OUR CORPORATE SUPPORTERS

and the thousands
of individuals who
have made our
response possible.



THANKS TO YOUR GENEROUS SUPPORT,

We have reached
276,173 people
affected by the
explosion



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