

# Appeal 2008-2009



International Federation  
of Red Cross and Red Crescent Societies

## Lebanon

Appeal No. MAALB001

Date: 14/12/2007

This appeal seeks 1,731,358 Swiss francs (USD 1,549,000 or EUR 1,049,000) to fund the planned programmes that are to be implemented in 2008-2009.

In a world of global challenges, continued poverty, inequity, and increasing vulnerability to disasters and disease, the International Federation with its global network, works to accomplish its Global Agenda, partnering with local community and civil society to prevent and alleviate human suffering from disasters, diseases and public health emergencies.



**Emergency Medical Services were operational during the internal disturbance in the north of Lebanon in 2007. Photo: Lebanese Red Cross.**

## Current context

The political, social and economic situation in Lebanon has been deteriorating significantly since the conflict of 2006 between Hezbollah and Israel. A political stand-off between the majority government and the opposition coalition has resulted in lengthy delays in governmental decision-making. This, coupled with a wave of bomb attacks on civilian and political targets and an internal armed disturbance in the Palestinian camp of Nahr-el Bared in the north of the country between the Lebanese Armed Forces and the militia group Fatah al Islam in 2007, have had a significant impact on the stability of the country.

International pressure to resolve the political stand-off continue, however, anxiety remains apparent within the population based on possible triggers for future violence. These include the confrontational political dialogue, continued politically motivated assassinations, rising regional tensions, the remote but lingering potential for renewed conflict between Hezbollah and Israel, increased militia attacks on civilian locations and possibly further targeting of the international peacekeeping force.

In this scenario, the focus of the Red Cross Red Crescent Movement in Lebanon has to be on emergency preparedness and the Lebanese Red Cross' institutional capacity to respond. The contextual scenario will have a significant impact on the Lebanese Red Cross focus and prioritisation of programmes. Despite this, the momentum for institutional growth will be maintained in the programme support plan, although timeframes for implementation will depend on the evolution of the situation. In this regard, the overall priority of the Lebanese Red Cross is to continue the implementation of institutional changes; to strengthen quality performance of the first aid and ambulance services; to continue assistance through the primary health care and

social centres; to strengthen the volunteer base through the youth as the future capital of the National Society; and to ensure quality performance of the services performed through the blood banks.

## Programme summary

### Disaster Management

**Target population: 4,000 Lebanese Red Cross volunteers and 20 headquarters staff.**

In its efforts to improve the quality and impact of disaster response, overall focus will be placed on emergency response capacity and disaster preparedness at an institutional level. The disaster management component aims to build on a five-year strategy by the Emergency Medical Services (EMS) department identifying key areas of improvement of services, such as upgrading the fleet and ambulance stations. In addition, institutional response to disasters in terms of improved cross-departmental and regional/local coordination mechanisms and logistical services will be addressed and strengthened where necessary. This will be achieved through capacity assessments at the Lebanese Red Cross headquarters and local level, adaptation of the disaster management plan of action based on a more thorough national situation analysis and the consolidation of the logistics development and standardisation process at the headquarters and local levels. Furthermore, emergency service delivery will be improved, focusing on the renewal of the ambulance fleet.

At the end of 2008 a review of activities will address the capacity and the need of the Lebanese Red Cross to take disaster preparedness to the community level.

### Health and Care

**Target population: 4,500 civilians, 500 Lebanese Red Cross volunteers and 50 health staff members.**

An extensive network of primary health care centres, dispensaries, blood banks, nursing schools and social services targeting vulnerable people unable to access other health institutions has been developed over the years by the Lebanese Red Cross. Efforts have been made and will continue to be made to shift attention from curative to preventive health activities. While the National Society continues to address the role and responsibility of its public health services within the overall development of a national strategy, attention will be placed on ensuring increased capacity to respond to public health in emergencies particularly targeting reproductive health and mother and child care.

The Lebanese Red Cross will further aim to elaborate on a pilot project within community-based first aid (CBFA) in 2007. As a result, the outreach into vulnerable communities will be increased through continued capacity building of the CBFA team and the elaboration of a plan of action covering all areas of Lebanon.

Considering the exposure of the population of Lebanon to conflict and political unrest, psychological support (PSP) has increasingly become a component of the Lebanese Red Cross activities. Efforts to improve access to civilians in need of PSP during crises will be supported by activities to strengthen the Lebanese Red Cross PSP team capacity in addressing civilian needs in crisis situations as well as continue with ongoing psychological support to volunteers.

### Capacity Development

**Target population: 4,000 Lebanese Red Cross volunteers, 225 Lebanese Red Cross members and 215 staff members.**

The Lebanese Red Cross is undeniably a strong emergency responder (including first aid and relief activities) and provider of health services to the Lebanese society. The strong operational capacity derives from a legacy earned during the years of the civil war. Despite significant efforts having been made on specific strategic and structural development since the end of the civil war, the National Society has recognised the need to continue to improve organizational capacity at an institutional as well as at an operational level particularly in terms of strengthening its legal and volunteer base and its ability to respond to vulnerability through improved capacity in programme, project, human resource and financial management.

In order to achieve this, focus will be placed on the implementation of global planning, reporting and monitoring systems to reflect a more needs based and integrated approach. This is to be complemented by revised statutes, internal regulations, volunteer management, human resources and finance service delivery. In addition, at a more grassroots level, youth volunteer and programme capacity to respond to vulnerability will be addressed through an evaluation of the youth department structures and programme components.

## Principles and Values

**Target population: 52,000 youth, Lebanese Red Cross volunteers, 225 Lebanese Red Cross members and 215 staff members.**

The Lebanese Red Cross has a long-standing reputation as the only nationwide organization with volunteers and members from all confessional groups; resulting in an unrivalled trust and respect among the population. This allows the organization to tackle issues related to humanitarian values and work against discrimination. In order to broaden its outreach and increase awareness of the Fundamental Principles of the Movement and its activities, a marketing plan will be developed and new diversified promotional material designed and published. This will be complemented by increased use of improved communication systems such as the Lebanese Red Cross web site.

Promotion of tolerance and co-existence is integral to the National Society. Activities implemented by the volunteers will target stigma and discrimination against people living with HIV, adolescent prisoners and communities with high levels of criminal activities that are left vulnerable by poor access to law enforcement and by the lack of social rules.

## Needs

The table presents the financial needs to fund the planned programmes for 2008-2009.

Programmes	2008 budget in CHF	2009 budget in CHF	Total budget in CHF
	Total Required Budget	Total Required Budget	Total Required Budget
Disaster management	248,096	226,963	475,059
Health and care	101,219	56,941	158,160
Capacity development	440,941	410,995	851,936
Principles and values	124,706	121,497	246,203
<b>Total</b>	<b>914,963</b>	<b>816,396</b>	<b>1,731,358</b>

## Working in partnership

The strength of the Lebanese Red Cross has been to permeate all levels of the Lebanese society. Its leadership has actively sought to engage with other actors although at all times maintaining a principled distance. Partnerships range from within the Red Cross and Red Crescent to external non-governmental organizations, international organizations and government bodies.

Furthermore, the representation of the Lebanese Red Cross in the government's Higher Relief Committee will ensure a continuous and coherent response to disasters in the future, while ongoing dialogue with the ministries of Defence, Internal Affairs and Social Affairs as well as the Civil Defence will ensure an auxiliary approach to conflict and general disaster preparedness and response. The mandate provided by the Ministry of Health to certain operational departments structurally defines the continuous cooperation. Close dialogue will be maintained with the United Nations agencies as and when the needs require. In particular, a joint programme in PSP with UNICEF will continue into 2008 while close contact will be maintained with other agencies such as the World Health Organization (WHO) with regards health care services.

Collaboration within the Movement was redefined as a result of the conflict of 2006 with an increase in the Movement partners active in the country. Close and coherent coordination was developed and will be maintained between the Lebanese Red Cross, the Federation and the ICRC through joint meetings and an open information exchange. This will include the host of participating National Societies engaged in the short or longer term either directly with the Lebanese Red Cross or through the Federation and ICRC. A Movement coordination forum will continue to meet to ensure coherence of the support to Lebanon. This includes representation from the four permanent participating National Societies: the Belgian Red Cross, the Iranian Red Crescent Society, the Palestine Red Crescent Society – Lebanon branch, the Netherlands Red Cross and the French Red Cross. Close partnership will be maintained with the longer-term partners such as the Norwegian Red Cross as well as regional cooperation between the Lebanese Red Cross, the Qatar Red Crescent and Kuwait Red Crescent.

### How we work

*All International Federation assistance seeks to adhere to the [Code of Conduct](#) and is committed to the [Humanitarian Charter and Minimum Standards in Disaster Response \(Sphere\)](#) in delivering quality and accountable assistance to the most vulnerable. For support to or for further information concerning Federation programmes or operations in this or other countries, or for a full description of the national society profile, please access the Federation's website at <http://www.ifrc.org>*

The International Federation's activities are aligned with its Global Agenda, which sets out four broad goals to meet the Federation's mission to "improve the lives of vulnerable people by mobilizing the power of humanity".

#### Global Agenda Goals:

- Reduce the numbers of deaths, injuries and impact from disasters.
- Reduce the number of deaths, illnesses and impact from diseases and public health emergencies.
- Increase local community, civil society and Red Cross Red Crescent capacity to address the most urgent situations of vulnerability.
- Reduce intolerance, discrimination and social exclusion and promote respect for diversity and human dignity.

### Contact information

For further information specifically related to this Appeal, please contact:

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[Click to access the detailed 2008-2009 plan; planning and resource summary matrix; budget summary](#)