

📍 LEBANON:

BEIRUT PORT EXPLOSION

DECEMBER 2020

 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



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

Cases increased exponentially following the blast, with 117,517 confirmed cases and 911 deaths*



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



*Numbers as of November 23, 2020

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



INTERNATIONAL MEDICAL CORPS RESPONDS:

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:



Supplied **27 facilities with medical supplies and PPE**



Distributed **75,133 pieces of PPE**, including masks, surgical masks, gloves and gowns



Distributed **24,633 infection prevention control items**, including bandages, gauze and hand sanitizer



Provided **1,121 health consultations** via mobile medical units



Distributed **1,786 hygiene kits**

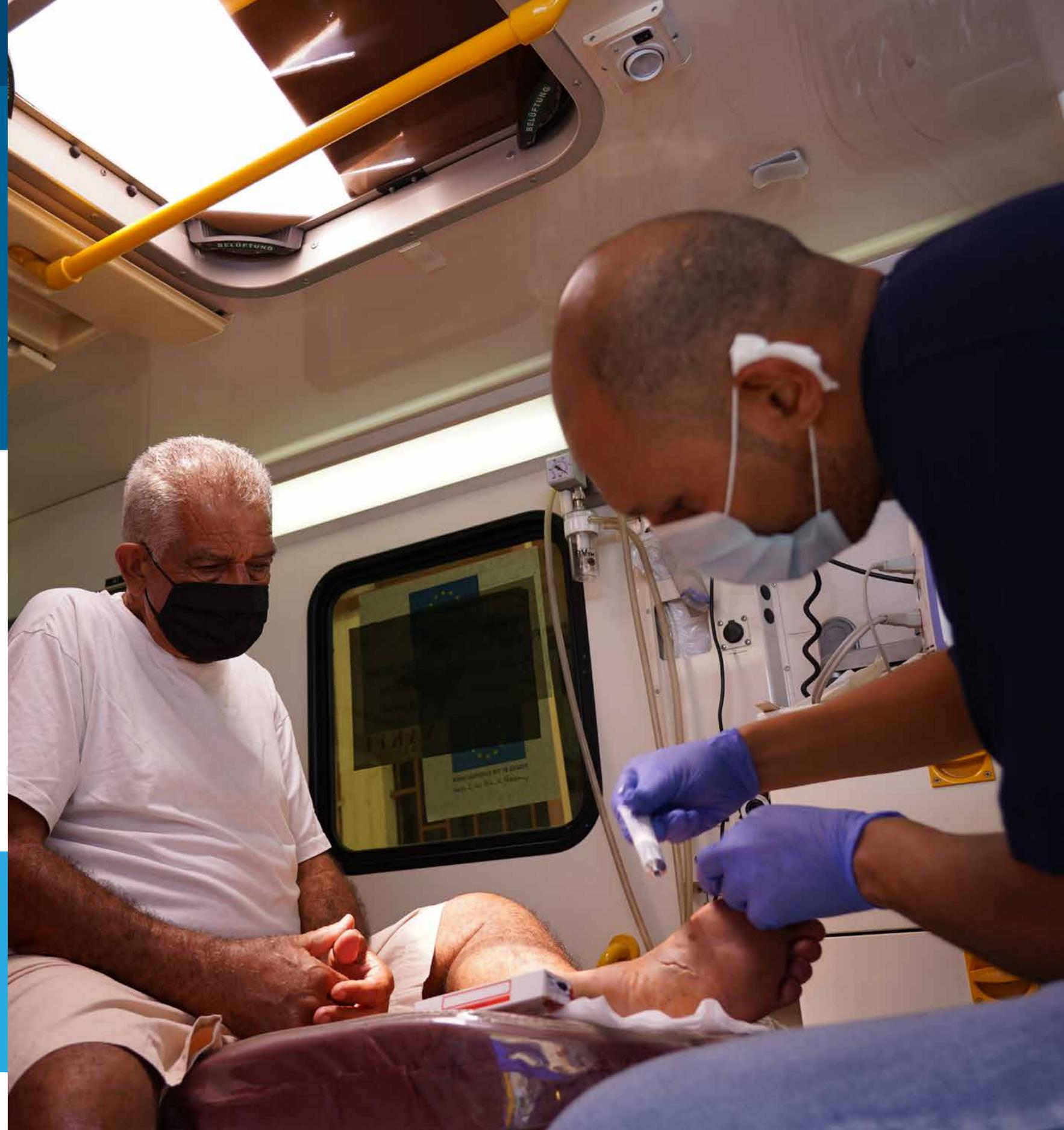
MOVING FORWARD, WE WILL:



Provide an additional 5 million items of critically needed PPE, medical and hygiene supplies



Rehabilitate four health centers



**Numbers as of November 10, 2020*

STORIES FROM THE FIELD

Aline, a community member affected by the devastation of the blast, recalls:

“

This is the first time I have ever seen anything like this. It was around 6:00 p.m. when the first explosion took place. Then the second explosion happened. I can still hear the blast to this day. We heard what sounded like warplanes; it reminded us of the war of July 2006. We stayed put. We could no longer register anything. There was dust everywhere. The front door of the house came off its hinges. We stayed put until we heard all the glass shatter and fall on the floor. When I assessed the damage, I immediately started crying. ‘This is not our house anymore,’ I thought. However, I did give thanks, and was and still am grateful that it was the house and not us.”



International Medical Corps’ mobile medical team provided Aline with psychosocial support in the days following the explosion.



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 **2,567 psychological first aid** sessions



Referred **447 individuals** for higher levels of mental health care



Trained **79 frontline workers** to provide psychosocial support and basic care

MOVING FORWARD, WE WILL:



Train 70 frontline healthcare workers on mental health care



Reach more than 5,000 persons with mental health case management support



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.”



INTERNATIONAL MEDICAL CORPS RESPONDS:

ADDRESSING GENDER-BASED VIOLENCE

Many of those displaced include women and girls, who are now living with extended relatives or strangers—increasing their risk of abuse and potential exploitation. In response, we:



Provided 302 consultations to prevent and address gender-based violence (GBV) needs



Reached 378 people through awareness-raising sessions to protect those who are vulnerable, including women and girls



Distributed 38 dignity kits, including shampoo, sanitary napkins, flashlights, and more

MOVING FORWARD, WE WILL:



Continue case management and raising awareness to prevent and address GBV



Provide livelihood support and community-focused psychosocial activities through 166 peer groups

**Numbers as of November 10, 2020*



INTERNATIONAL MEDICAL CORPS IN LEBANON

- Launched programs in **2006**
- Served approximately **47,000 individuals** with healthcare and **940 people** with mental health care every month in 2019
- **First NGO** to begin providing health services for Syrian refugees in North Lebanon in 2011
- Support access to primary healthcare services for Syrian refugees and vulnerable Lebanese at **more than 50 healthcare facilities** in Greater 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.

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THE CHURCH OF
JESUS CHRIST
OF LATTER-DAY SAINTS



Omaze



WesternUnion WU



THANKS TO YOUR GENEROUS SUPPORT,

we have reached **87,122**
women, men and children
affected by the blast with
urgent health, mental health
and protection services.



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