

Mohammed Zaatari/AP Photo



أبعاد  
ab'ad

# EMERGENCY RESPONSE APPEAL

GBV Prevention and Response for  
Conflict-Affected Communities in Lebanon

March 2026



GBV EMERGENCY SAFE LINE (24/7)  
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# CONTEXT

Lebanon is facing the direct consequences of a regional armed conflict that escalated sharply on February 28, 2026. As the conflict spread, strikes on Lebanon resumed and intensified, triggering mass displacement across the country. Civilian casualties are rising, social safety nets are breaking down, and communities are being uprooted in a country where nearly half the population was already living in poverty before this escalation began.

Conflict is a breeding ground for violence in all its forms, and gender-based violence (GBV) is no exception. Displacement, overcrowding, fractured support networks, rising inflation, and mounting financial pressures are intensifying pre-existing vulnerabilities within households and across communities. These conditions heighten the risks of violence while simultaneously disrupting access to protection mechanisms and essential services. As a result, many survivors of GBV are left without the support systems necessary to ensure their safety, dignity, and recovery. ABAAD is launching this emergency appeal to mobilize the resources required to sustain and scale life-saving GBV prevention and response services, ensuring that women and girls can access safe, timely, and survivor-centered support during this critical period.



Mohammed Zaatari/AP Photo



# STRENGTHENING THE NATIONAL EMERGENCY RESPONSE

Beyond prevention and direct service provision, ABAAD will activate its role as a national resource centre for gender equality to strengthen the broader protection ecosystem. This will include:



## Conducting

rapid protection assessments in collective shelters to identify GBV risks and technical gaps.



## Providing

technical assistance to improve shelter conditions and ensure safe and dignified living environments for women, children, and at-risk groups.



## Offering

capacity building & technical accompaniment/coaching to service providers and frontline responders on GBViE, Case Management, PFA & community-based PSS, community mobilization, PSEAH & Accountability to Affected Populations (AAP).



## Providing

self-care tools and structured wellbeing support for frontline responders, including ABAAD's own field teams, to ensure continuity of services during prolonged crisis.



# INVEST IN PEOPLE, SAVE LIVES.

## Why Is Urgent Investment in GBV Mitigation Crucial During Conflict & War?

### Breakdown of Social Structures

Conflict dismantles systems of accountability, making it easier for violence to go unchecked. Funding protection services ensures life-saving interventions and reduces GBV's impact on health and economic stability.

### Limited Access to Services

Health, legal, psychological, and SRHR services become inaccessible during crises, leaving survivors isolated and without support. Funding critical services reduces the burden of GBV and offers life-saving care to those at risk.

### Stress and Economic Hardship

Loss of livelihoods and increased stress fuel domestic violence, sexual exploitation, forced child marriage, and other forms of abuse. Addressing GBV reduces long-term economic and mental health costs for families and communities.

### Psychological Trauma

Conflict inflicts trauma across all ages, often leading to aggression, family violence, and intimate partner violence. Early intervention mitigates future violence within households.

### Displacement and Overcrowding

Overcrowded shelters increase vulnerability to sexual violence and exploitation. Embedding gender-responsive approaches in crisis management creates safer environments and reduces protection risks.

### Weaponization of GBV

GBV is used as a weapon in conflict to create fear and control populations. Investing in prevention and response today protects future generations from its long-term effects.

**THE ECONOMIC, HEALTH, AND MENTAL TOLL OF GBV EXTENDS FAR BEYOND THE IMMEDIATE CRISIS.**



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# INTERVENTION

ABAAD will immediately leverage its expertise and grassroots presence to directly support affected communities and contribute to strengthening national crisis response. In this context, stabilization cannot be a precondition for action. Our response integrates protection, prevention, and systems strengthening as connected priorities.

**The cost of inaction is high. Service gaps render survivors more vulnerable. Referral pathways built over years can collapse within days. Untreated trauma deepens across all ages, and exploitation increases in overcrowded shelters.**

ABAAD's intervention will focus on two main pillars:

- 1** Prevention of gender-based violence (GBV) and prevention of sexual exploitation, abuse and harassment (PSEAH)
- 2** Response services for individuals and families affected by GBV

**A central part of our response is supporting families as a whole.**





# PREVENTION SERVICES

Prevention efforts will focus on reducing exposure to violence and strengthening community awareness through:

- **Informational Sessions**  
Including sessions on PSEAH, parenting and caregiving roles during conflict, protection risks in displacement contexts, and more.
- **Primary Psychosocial Support**  
Including Psychological First Aid (PFA), community-based PSS, recreational activities for children, emotional support groups, and expression through arts-based activities.

ABAAD will work at the intersection of child protection and violence against women and girls, while actively engaging men and boys to promote healthier coping strategies and reduce the risk of violence within families and communities.





# RESPONSE SERVICES

ABAAD will provide direct response services for individuals and families affected by violence, including:

- **Provision of Child Protection & GBV Assistance**  
(Inside/Outside Shelters & Remotely) for both women and men.
- **Emergency Temporary Safe Sheltering**  
for high-risk GBV survivors and their dependents.
- **Community Mobilization, Outreach, Community-based Psychosocial Support, and referrals**  
to MHPSS, health, legal, and protection services.

Services will be delivered in-person and remotely, depending on access constraints and the evolving security situation.

March 2026 - Emergency Response Appeal



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# STAND WITH SURVIVORS

ABAAD is mobilizing emergency financial support to scale its protection-focused response to the armed conflict in Lebanon. Timely funding will ensure uninterrupted access to lifesaving GBV prevention and response services, strengthen protection standards in displacement settings, and safeguard the dignity and wellbeing of conflict-affected families.

**Every contribution counts. Should you wish to support this appeal or require any additional information, please do not hesitate to reach out. ABAAD remains committed to full transparency and to providing partners, donors, and supporters with accurate and timely updates on the response and the use of resources.**

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**ABAAD stands with survivors and remains committed to delivering accountable, dignified, and needs-centered protection throughout this crisis, in full alignment with internationally recognized humanitarian principles: [Humanity](#), [Neutrality](#), [Impartiality](#), and [Independence](#).**



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