



2025- 2026

GEP DEEP DIVES

SOCIAL PROTECTION



**AMERICAN
UNIVERSITY
OF BEIRUT**



I. MINISTERIAL STATEMENT PROMISES

The following commitments were made by the Lebanese government in its ministerial statement, forming the baseline against which actual progress is assessed across the Social Protection sector.



II. AREAS WHERE PROGRESS HAS BEEN MADE



1. Social Protection & AMAN program

- The **AMAN Social Safety Net Program** was extended, supporting **166,000 families**. Disability allowances and emergency cash assistance reached hundreds of thousands, **while social protection coverage reached nearly 800,000 beneficiaries**.
- A **home-visit reassessment process** was launched for all current **AMAN** beneficiaries, using updated eligibility criteria, digitized and secured data, and AI-assisted analysis to improve targeting accuracy and reduce duplication.
- The **ministry's budget allocation for Program AMAN** increased tenfold from \$5 million to \$55 million in the 2026 state budget, marking a major step toward full domestic funding of social protection programs.
- The **DAEM unified social registry** is being strengthened under the **World Bank** project to improve beneficiary targeting, transparency, and crisis-response capacity.
- A two-year, **\$81 million work plan** was signed with **UNICEF**, covering evidence-based policy reform, youth engagement, housing reform, institutional strengthening, social protection, disability inclusion, and child protection.

II. AREAS WHERE PROGRESS HAS BEEN MADE (CONT'D)

- The **"Kulluna lil Watan" initiative** was launched during the recent armed conflict, establishing a unified visual identity for all State-led and State-coordinated humanitarian assistance across Lebanon, aimed at rebuilding public trust, improving coordination among government and partner organizations.
- Recently in **April 2026, Lebanon has signed a new loan agreement with the World Bank worth \$200 million** to strengthen the emergency social safety net and provide cash assistance to poor families.



2. Disability Inclusion

- Lebanon ratified the **UN Convention on the Rights of Persons with Disabilities**, which had been pending presidential signature for years; President Salam signed it within weeks of the government's formation. Meanwhile, a national disability strategy and governance reforms followed. International and regional partnerships strengthened coordinated responses to displacement.
- For the first time in ten years, elections for the **National Commission for Persons with Disabilities were announced**.
- For the first time financed the **National Disability Allowance directly from the national budget, allocating \$10 million in 2025 to support around 30,000 Lebanese persons with disabilities** through monthly income assistance—an important shift toward institutionalized, rights-based support.
- Approximately **100,000 disability cardholders were identified in the ministry's database, and their data was shared with the Ministry of Interior to ensure accessible polling stations for the 2025 municipal elections, a first-time coordination of this kind**.
- In 2025, the **Ministry delivered cash assistance to 31,271 persons with disabilities through the National Disability Allowance**, provided care for 9,100 persons with disabilities in specialized institutions, supported 1,450 elderly in permanent care, reached 23,000 children through contracted care institutions, and delivered over 150,000 social services through 165 Social Development Centers nationwide.

II. AREAS WHERE PROGRESS HAS BEEN MADE (CONT'D)



3. Economic and Social development Inclusion

- The Ministry launched its Social Development Strategy and Implementation Plan, signaling an effort to reposition the ministry from a primarily welfare-oriented actor toward a Ministry of Social Development with a broader planning, coordination, and policymaking role.
- A **\$10 million agreement was signed between the IFC and two microfinance associations**, Al Majmoua and Vitas, to support micro-enterprises in Lebanon, directly aligned with the Ministry's economic inclusion strategy to expand access to microfinance for vulnerable families and AMAN program beneficiaries, creating concrete pathways toward self-reliance.
- Pilot programs for economic inclusion, connecting AMAN beneficiaries and unemployed individuals with microfinance institutions, vocational training, financial literacy programs, and private sector employers, were launched in several regions.
- A **€3 million partnership was signed with GIZ Lebanon** to expand economic opportunities for young adults, women, and persons with disabilities, targeting 650 individuals with employability measures and aiming to place 800 beneficiaries in employment within six months of program completion, as part of the Ministry's broader shift from assistance to sustainable economic inclusion.

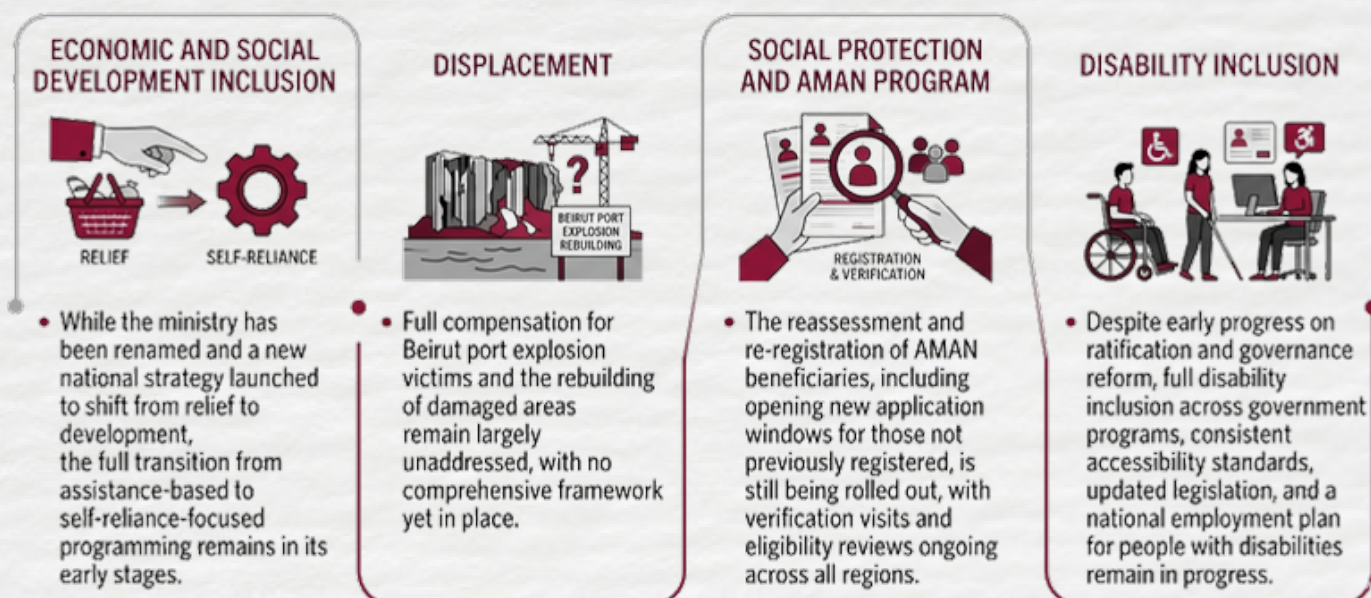


4. Displacement

- Over **250,000 internally displaced Lebanese** received support following the recent war, while more than **400,000 Syrian displaced persons** returned safely and sustainably to Syria under the government-led return plan coordinated with international partners.
- A cash assistance program for approximately **200,000–250,000 Lebanese internally displaced** by the recent war was launched from Nabatieh, providing six months of support funded by redirected donor contributions.
- A housing allowance program for approximately **10,000 Lebanese displaced families**, those without adequate shelter or unable to pay rent, is being prepared for launch at the start of the new year.

III. AREAS WHERE EFFORTS CONTINUE TO EVOLVE - AGENDA IN PROGRESS

1 Social Protection



IV. OVERALL ASSESSMENT SUMMARY

Commitment	Status	Note
Increase social spending for the most vulnerable		AMAN expanded to 800,000 beneficiaries; budget allocation increased tenfold to \$55 million in 2026
Establish a comprehensive social protection system		\$200M World Bank loan signed; \$81M UNICEF work plan launched; DAEM social registry being strengthened
Ensure safe return of Syrian displaced persons		Over 400,000 Syrians returned; coordination framework with Syrian authorities still being developed
Support conflict-affected Lebanese displaced persons		250,000 displaced Lebanese supported with cash assistance; housing allowance program for 10,000 families being prepared
Provide full compensation to Beirut port explosion victims and rebuild damaged areas		No comprehensive compensation or reconstruction framework yet in place
Implement the UN Convention on the Rights of Persons with Disabilities		Convention ratified and signed by President Salam within weeks of government formation; National Commission elections announced for first time in ten years
Embed disability inclusion across all government projects and institutions		Initial coordination steps taken; systematic mainstreaming across all ministries and public institutions has yet to be fully implemented



Note: RED - early ; YELLOW – moderate; GREEN – advanced



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