WFP Assistance

Enhancing the resilience of chronically vulnerable rural, urban and refugee populations and reducing undernutrition in Djibouti

PRRO 200824 (May 2015- Dec 2017)

Support for the national school feeding programme

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Total Requirements (in USD)</th>
<th>Total Received (in USD)</th>
<th>6 Month Net Funding Requirements (in USD)*</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>5.2 m</td>
<td>4.2 m (80%)</td>
<td>200,000 (21%)</td>
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*December 2016 – May 2017

The protracted relief and recovery operation (PRRO) aims to stabilize or reduce undernutrition among children aged 6–59 months, pregnant women and nursing mothers; stabilize or improve food consumption for targeted households and individuals; and restore or stabilize access to basic services and community assets.

WFP ensures that registered refugees living in camps and the most food-insecure Djiboutian populations have access to an adequate daily caloric intake through the distribution of food rations, including specialized food products. The rations are aimed at treating moderate acute malnutrition and prevent chronic and acute malnutrition. WFP also distributes cash to refugees in camps and electronic vouchers to the most vulnerable households in the suburbs of Djibouti city. Refugee girls receive a take home ration to encourage girls' school enrolment and attendance. People living with HIV/AIDS on antiretroviral treatment and TB patients on direct observation treatment are provided with specialized nutrition products to support treatment and recovery.

In addition, WFP is supporting a safety net intervention seeking to mitigate the effects of HIV/AIDS on affected households through income generating activities. WFP supports food-insecure communities and households with asset creation activities that enhance their resilience to chronic shocks and risks related to climate change.

The development operation supports access to basic education for all school-aged children in rural areas and semi-urban areas of Djibouti city. The objectives are to increase access to education at regional, national and community levels; make progress towards a nationally owned school feeding programme and promote an equitable access to and utilization of education among girls in particular through the reduction of drop-out rates and improvement of attendance.

School children enjoy diversified school meals in targeted rural pre-primary and middle schools thanks to a combination of WFP-internationally purchased commodities and locally purchased fresh food with complementary funds allocated by the Government of Djibouti. A take-home ration of oil is provided to families of school girls in grade three through grade five as an incentive to send girls to school and maintain their enrolment and attendance through the 9th grade. WFP is supporting the capacity of the government towards the establishment of a sustainable national school feeding programme.

Highlights

- Significant funding shortfalls continue to threaten WFP’s ability to maintain assistance to refugees and vulnerable populations in drought-affected and urban areas. New funding is urgently required to avert possible breaks in cash-based transfers for refugees in January 2017.

In Numbers

79,466

People Assisted

November 2016
Operational Updates

- Thanks to a recent contribution of 60 mt of rice from the Djibouti’s Office National D’aide et de Protection aux Réfugiés et Sinistrés (ONARS) to the school meals programme, under the Development Operation, cereal shortfalls in the second quarter of the school year have been averted.
- In November, WFP assisted 18,086 boys and girls attending pre-primary and primary schools in the rural areas through the school meals programme.
- Djibouti is currently hosting approximately 18,500 refugees from Somalia, Yemen, Eritrea and Ethiopia. WFP continues to provide food assistance to all registered refugees living in Ali Addeh, Holl Holl and Markazi camps, in the form of general distributions, nutrition interventions and take home rations for school girls to encourage school attendance. The general distributions include a cash component to diversify refugees’ diet, increase their purchase power and boost the local markets. In November, WFP provided food assistance to 18,500 refugees living in the camps.
- WFP provides food assistance to the rural and urban food-insecure households affected by drought through general rations in the form of in-kind and cash-based transfers. In addition, WFP supports asset creation activities as part of building the resilience of affected communities. Nutrition interventions are ongoing for the prevention and treatment of moderate acute malnutrition and for people living with HIV/AIDS and those on TB treatment. In November, WFP reached a total of 42,880 vulnerable people, with food and cash interventions.
- According to FEWSNET, the Xays/Daada coastal rains (October to February) have been near average, further improving pastures and livestock body conditions across the country, except in localized areas, such as Tadjoura. Rural and urban populations are now in stressed (IPC Phase 2) acute food insecurity, except the refugee population, which faces crisis (IPC Phase 3). Due to improvements in rangeland conditions even in southeast border areas and north of Obock City, pastoralists are largely now able to sell milk and goats, improving incomes and access to food.

Challenges

- The PRRO has been facing funding shortfalls. WFP has been prioritizing general distributions and nutrition interventions for refugees, in order to stretch available resources. New resources are required urgently to avert possible pipeline breaks for cash-based transfers for refugees in January 2017.

World Aids Day

In the lead up to World Aids Day, WFP staff participated in the “Hands up for HIV prevention” campaign. Staff prepared various messages on their hands such as: “Good nutrition, No Stigma, No discrimination, Use condoms and an HIV+ friend stays my friend”. WFP provides food assistance for people living with HIV/AIDS on anti-retroviral treatment. In addition, WFP supports a safety net intervention seeking to mitigate the effects of HIV/AIDS on affected households through income generating activities. Djibouti has a HIV prevalence rate of 1.6 percent.

Country Background & Strategy

Djibouti is the least developed and most food deficit country in the Horn of Africa. The country has some of the worst social indicators in the world; 42 percent of the population lives in absolute poverty with 83 percent of those living in rural areas. Life expectancy is at 53 years.

The climate is hot and dry, desert-like arid, characterized by less than 200 mm of rainfall per year which hinders agricultural production, which accounts for only 3 percent of Gross Domestic Product (GDP). The country compensates the gap by importing 90 percent of its food commodities which makes the country highly dependent on international market prices. Any variation in the international prices has a considerable impact on the poorest segment of the population, who spend 77 percent of their household budget on food.

WFP’s operations in Djibouti are aligned with the 2035 vision and strategies, and works with the Government to consider and support the development of food and cash-based transfer modalities according to specific contexts.

WFP has been in Djibouti since 1978.

Donors

USA, Japan, European Commission, Multilateral, UNICEF and Canada.

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