



World Food Programme

SAVING LIVES  
CHANGING LIVES

# WFP Djibouti Country Brief

August 2021

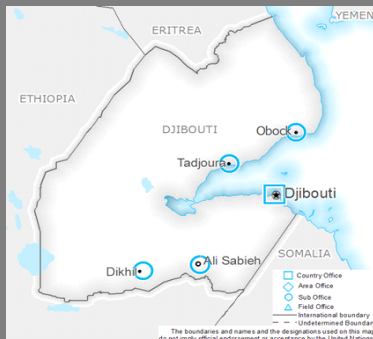


## Operational Context

Djibouti is a low-middle income country and the most food deficit country in the Horn of Africa. An estimated 16 percent of the population lives below the international poverty line of USD1.90 per day (2017). The most recent official national extreme poverty rate, calculated using a survey conducted in 2017 by the World Bank, stands at 21.1 percent. Life expectancy is 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, the latter accounting for only three percent of the Gross Domestic Product (GDP). As a result, the country has to import 90 percent of its food commodities which makes it 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 Vision 2035, the national strategy that promotes food security and nutrition, as well as the United Nations Development Assistance Framework (UNDAF) 2018-2024.



Population: 1.1 million

2019 Human Development Index:  
**166 out of 189**

Income Level: **Lower middle**

Chronic malnutrition: **31 percent of children between 6-59 months**

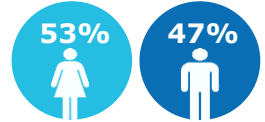
## In Numbers

**343.1 mt** of food assistance distributed

**USD 577,125** cash-based transfers made

**USD 4.82 m** six months (July – December 2021) net funding requirements

**67,588 people assisted**  
in August 2021



## Operational Updates

In August, WFP provided food and nutrition assistance to approximately 67,588 people, including refugees, asylum seekers, migrants, and vulnerable households in rural and urban areas, through unconditional in-kind food distributions and cash-based transfers (CBT) to meet their immediate food needs.

**General food assistance:** WFP and UNHCR revised the data sharing agreement to introduce a biometric system to SCOPE cards. This will improve the identification of beneficiaries receiving WFP assistance through elimination of redundancies in distribution sites. WFP provided food assistance to 19,500 refugees in August.

**COVID-19 response:** WFP, in collaboration with the Ministry of Social Affairs and Solidarities, provided food assistance through vouchers of USD 56.4 each to 550 households who have been affected by the impact of COVID-19 and the associated restrictive measures.

**Food assistance for assets:** WFP provided conditional food assistance to 1,800 beneficiaries in rural areas who participated in the construction of agricultural perimeters and soil regeneration activities such as the reforestation of the forest of Madgoul in Tadjoura which was affected and damaged by drought and climate change.

In addition, a monitoring visit took place in the southern regions of Ali Sabieh and Dikhil to evaluate all food for assets related projects and make sure they are as per WFP standards.

## Nutrition

WFP, in collaboration with the Djibouti Social Development Agency, provided food assistance to 270 counselling mother-led households. WFP works with these mother counsellors to conduct awareness sessions on the nutrition and essential social practices such as breastfeeding and vaccination.

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Photo caption: Food assistance to COVID affected households in Djibouti

## Country strategic plan (2020 - 2024)

Total Requirement (in USD)	Allocated Contributions (in USD)	Six Month Net Funding Requirements (in USD)
<b>83.3 m</b>	<b>37.6 m</b>	<b>4.82 m</b>

### Strategic Result 1: Access to food (SDG Target 2.1)

**Strategic Outcome 1:** Refugees, asylum seekers and shock affected populations in the Republic of Djibouti have access to adequate and nutritious food throughout the year

**Focus area:** Crisis Response

#### Activities:

- Provide food assistance and nutrition services, including nutrient rich food and nutrition education and counselling to refugees and asylum seekers living in settlements
- Strengthen government capacity and support national responses for shock affected populations through contingency plan

**Strategic Outcome 2:** Food insecure Djiboutians in targeted regions and refugees have improved access to food and improved nutrition status by 2025

**Focus area:** Resilience Building

#### Activities:

- Provide food, cash-based transfers and technical assistance to strengthen a national inclusive, adaptive and nutrition-sensitive social protection system that contributes to enhanced economic integration.
- Provide malnutrition prevention and treatment, cash-based transfers, nutritious food, counselling nutritional and incentives for targeted populations, while supporting national nutrition programmes

### Strategic Result 8: Enhance Global Partnership (SDG Target 17.16)

**Strategic Outcome 3:** Authorities and local partners have enhanced capacity to support the humanitarian community in the Horn of Africa throughout the year

**Focus area:** Crisis Response

#### Activities:

- Provide supply chain services to the humanitarian community (on a full cost-recovery basis)
- Provide vocational training and capacity strengthening in the transport and commodity handling sectors for partners, refugees and local population

## Capacity building

From 22 to 25 August, WFP engineers visited the training centers for vocational training in Tadjourah and Dikhil to determine if participants are on track with the programme and if structures are aligned with private sector standards.

## Supply Chain

**Bilateral Service Provision:** In August, WFP coordinated the reception and storage of 2 x 40' ft containers of medical supplies for UNHCR, three pallets of early childhood adolescent kits for UNICEF and three pallets of PVC cards for WFP's operations in Yemen. Several commodities have also been dispatched for UNICEF: emergency response kits (WASH), water purification buckets, dignity kits and blankets.

**Port operations:** Thanks to a proper planning and preparations on the ground, three vessels containing a total of 75,880 mt of bulk wheat in transit to Ethiopia have been berthed upon arrival without any delay. They were successfully discharged at both Doraleh Multi-Purpose and the Djiboutian Bulk Terminal Management Company (Société Djiboutienne de gestion du Terminal Vraquier-SDTV) terminals at a very efficient discharge rate of up to 14,000 mt per day.

## Forecast-based Financing

On 23 August 2021, WFP organized a workshop in Ali Sabieh during which participants identified potential priority impacts of droughts and decided on the anticipatory actions to mitigate these impacts with a proposed timeline (SOP) for their implementations

## Food Systems

WFP, FAO, IFAD and the United Nations Resident Coordinator are supporting the Government of Djibouti to define and draft a roadmap to optimize the food systems in the Country. The Government of Djibouti, FAO, WFP and stakeholders jointly initiated a dialogue phase after which they produced a document to identify challenges and assets which will serve as a basis for the Djibouti's roadmap for the food systems summit.

## Monitoring

Food prices are still on the rise in all regions, although the price of sugar has fallen. Price increase on vegetable oil (+25 percent) and wheat flour (+4.6 percent) are higher in Obock/Markazi than at the national level. The level of food prices on most markets depends on the international context.

## Donors (in alphabetical order)

Canada, CERF, Denmark, European Union, France, Japan, Russian Federation, Multilateral donors and USA.