



World Food Programme

SAVING LIVES  
CHANGING LIVES

# WFP Djibouti

## Country Brief

### July 2018

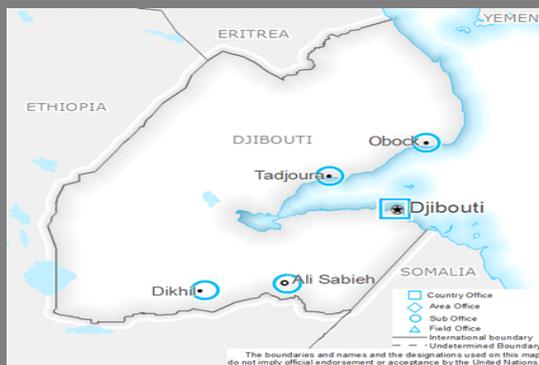


### Operational Context

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, which promotes a food security and nutrition



Population: **0.9 million**

2016 Human Development Index: **172 out of 188**

Income Level: **Lower middle**

Chronic malnutrition: **30% of children between 6-59 months**

## In Numbers

**237.887 mt** of food assistance distributed

**US\$0.15 m** cash-based transfers made

**US\$ 12 m** six months (August 2018 -January 2019) net funding requirements

**33,682 people** assisted in July 2018



### Operational Updates

- Djibouti is hosting approximately 26,300 refugees from Somalia, Yemen, Eritrea and Ethiopia, of which 21,100 reside in camps. WFP provides assistance to all registered refugees and asylum seekers living in Ali Addeh, Holl Holl and Markazi camps in form of general distributions, nutrition support, take home rations for school girls to encourage school attendance, and a cash transfer component as part of the general distribution.
- In July 2018, WFP provided food assistance to 33,682 people, including refugees, asylum seekers, and vulnerable local households in rural and urban areas. WFP provided food assistance to rural and urban food insecure households affected by drought in the form of general rations to meet their immediate food needs facilitating recovery from food insecurity. Nutrition interventions are also ongoing for the prevention, treatment of moderate acute malnutrition and for people living with HIV/AIDS and those on tuberculosis treatment.
- According to the Famine Early Warning Systems Network (FEWS NET), average rainfall during the March to June Diraac/Sougoum rainy season has restored pasture and water resources in all areas and vegetation conditions are near average in the Southeast Pastoral Border livelihood zone and areas north of Obock City, though, rangeland conditions are lower than last year. FEWSNET estimates that approximately 50,000 people will experience Crisis (IPC 3) acute food insecurity or worse during the ongoing June to September lean season. Food security is expected to improve from Crisis (IPC Phase 3) to Stressed (IPC Phase 2) during the October to January as households have seasonally higher access to milk and livestock conditions improve which will facilitate additional sales and increased income.
- In response to the cyclone Sagar, WFP and other UN agencies under the supervision of the Ministry of Social Affairs (SEAS), initiated a response through emergency paper voucher distribution. The emergency voucher distribution which targets 2,000 most affected households in Djibouti Ville is entering its last month of distribution. The intervention has enabled affected households address their immediate food needs, reducing short term hunger.

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## Country Strategic Plan (2018-2019)

Total Requirement (in USD)	Allocated Contributions (in USD)	Six Month Net Funding Requirements (in USD)
<b>26.9 m</b>	<b>10.3 m</b>	<b>12 m</b>

### Strategic Result 1: Everyone has access to food

**Strategic Outcome 1:** Refugees and asylum seekers living in camps in the Republic of Djibouti have access to adequate and nutritious food all year long.

**Focus area:** *Crisis Response*

**Activities:**

- Provide food assistance and nutrition services, including provision of nutrient rich food and nutrition education and counselling to refugees and asylum seekers living in camps

**Strategic Outcome 2:** Food insecure Djiboutian rural and urban populations in targeted regions and neighbourhoods have improved access to food by 2019.

**Focus area:** *Resilience Building*

**Activities:**

- Provide unconditional food assistance for targeted severely food insecure rural households and extreme poor households in urban areas
- Provide conditional food assistance for Asset Creation for communities in moderate food insecure areas

**Strategic Outcome 3:** School-aged children in rural Djibouti have access to nutritious meals throughout the school year.

**Focus area:** *Root Causes*

**Activities:**

- Provide school meals and take home rations to targeted school girls and boys while assisting the development of a nationally-owned school feeding programme

### Strategic Result 2: No one suffers from malnutrition (SDG Target 2.2)

**Strategic Outcome 4:** Djiboutian Vulnerable population's (children under 5, PLW and malnourished ART and TB/DOT clients) in the Republic of Djibouti have improved their nutritional status all year long.

**Focus area:** *Resilience Building*

**Activities:**

- Provide nutrition foods for Prevention of stunting (6-23 + PLW), treatment of MAM to children 6-59 months and PLW; and Prevention of Acute malnutrition where GAM rates exceed 15%
- Provide nutritional support to ART / TB-DOT clients and Economic support to Families of ART clients

### Strategic Result 8: Sharing of knowledge, expertise and technology, strengthen global partnership support to country efforts to achieve the SDGs (SDG Target 17.16)

**Strategic Outcome 5:** The humanitarian community in the Horn of Africa receives, on request, expertise, services and infrastructure in the area of supply chain 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 sessions in the transport and commodity handling sectors to partners

- The Djibouti Zero Hunger Strategic review is in its final stages. The review, which is led by the government, will identify existing gaps and priorities to address food security and nutrition challenges in Djibouti. The recommendations of the review will inform the Djibouti Country Strategic Plan (CSP).
- Following the alignment of WFP's operations to the Ministry of Social Affairs (SEAS's) programmes, and fruitful partnership between the two organizations, the seasonal food assistance intervention in urban areas is being officially converted into a Government's first phase National Family Solidarity Program (PNSF) in urban areas. The program which is funded by EU-Commission's Directorate-General for International Cooperation and *Development (DG DEVCO)* will run for three years, during which WFP, will focus on strengthening the capacity of the SEAS and of other local development actors to guarantee a smooth transition towards full government ownership of all activities.

## Monitoring

- As part of WFP's commitment to affected people, the monitoring and evaluation unit, and Vulnerability Assessment and Mapping (VAM) unit conducted a Post-Distribution Monitoring (PDM) survey. The main objectives of the survey were to assess the quality of implementation processes and how they can be improved, and to measure the immediate effect of urban cash transfer on the food security situation in the urban areas. Food security data show that in Markazi, the food security situation has improved with the percentage of household having a poor food consumption dropping from 59 percent to 5 percent. While in Ali Addeh, the situation appears to have worsened, with the percentage of households having poor food consumption increasing from 8 percent to 19 percent.
- The results of Food Basket Monitoring (FBM) show that beneficiaries were well informed of their entitlement with a significant 87 percent in Ali Addeh and 77 percent in Holl Holl reporting to have been aware of their entitlement, an improvement from the 2017 Survey.

## Challenges

- The deteriorating food security in some neighboring countries could trigger population movement in Djibouti.
- Given the resource constraints, WFP is prioritizing the food distributions for the refugees and nutrition interventions for refugees. WFP requires additional resources to be able to respond to the increasing needs among refugees as well as the host community population who are food insecure.

## Donors

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