



World Food Programme

SAVING LIVES  
CHANGING LIVES

# WFP Djibouti

## Country Brief

### September 2018

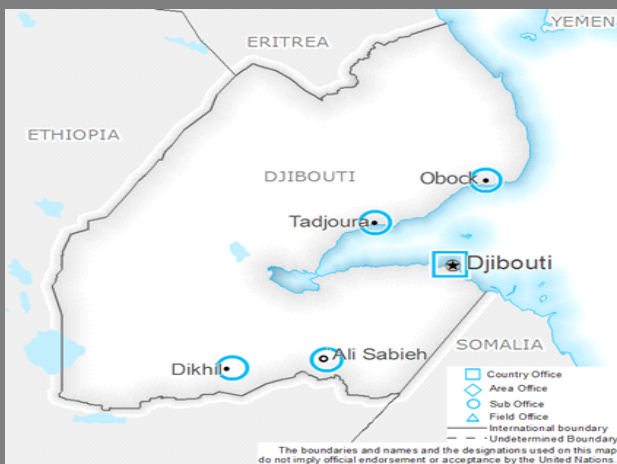


### Operational Context

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.



The boundaries and names and the designations used on this map do not imply official endorsement or acceptance by the United Nations.

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

**808 mt** of food assistance distributed

**USD 50,000** cash-based transfers made

**USD 9.6 m** six months (October 2018-March 2019) net funding requirements\*

**58,600 people assisted** in September 2018



### Operational Updates

- Djibouti is hosting approximately 26,300 refugees from Somalia, Yemen, Eritrea and Ethiopia, of which 21,100 reside in settlements. 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 and a cash transfer component as part of the general distribution.
- In September 2018, **WFP provided food assistance** to over 58,600 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.
- Prevention of malnutrition interventions are ongoing in the regions of Dikhil and Obock where malnutrition rates are highest – Global Acute Malnutrition (GAM) of 25 percent. The interventions are implemented, in collaboration with the Djiboutian Agency for Social Development (ADDS). In addition, WFP Djibouti is working on an action plan with the Ministry of Health to resume all health activities.
- The May 2018 Food Survey Monitoring System (FSMS) reports that more than half of the rural population are food insecure and have limited access to diversified foods. This is due to limited livelihood opportunities which would help reduce other negative coping activities, including, the sale of livestock and other assets as well as firewood and charcoal production. Based on these findings, households in rural areas remain in Crisis phase (IPC3). During the next quarter (October 2018 to January 2019), the situation is expected to improve due to seasonally higher sales of milk and livestock which will increase household incomes.

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\*Funding figures provided are as at October 2018.

## T-ICSP (2018-2019)

Total Requirement (in USD)	Allocated Contributions (in USD)	Six Month Net Funding Requirements (in USD)
26.9 m	16.8 m	9.6 m

### 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

- WFP resumed **school feeding activities** in 96 schools where food was delivered for three months, WFP also provided take-home rations of vegetable oil to girls in grades 3 to 5 (10,000 beneficiaries including family members), this is to encourage girls' regular attendance to school.
- WFP is supporting the government to **develop a sustainable nationally owned school feeding programme**. As one of the key steps, WFP is supporting the ministry of education in the development of a national school feeding policy. In addition, WFP has disseminated a school meals recipe guide to all targeted schools. The recipe guide provides information on quantities and quality of meals to be prepared, this will ensure school going children receive adequate and nutritious food.
- WFP provided unconditional food assistance to over 15,500 severely food insecure beneficiaries in the five regions of Djibouti. WFP is collaborating with the Secretariat d'Etat aux Affaires Sociales (SEAS) and the "Programme de Solidarité National e" (PNSF), to align food and nutrition assistance with government priorities and avoid duplication of efforts in the targeted areas.
- WFP and SEAS are jointly planning to launch the EU Trust Fund social protection programme for three years, planning and negotiations are currently ongoing. During this preparation phase, a refugee profiling exercise has been planned along with UNHCR – the exercise will combine the classic profiling questions and the socio-economic questions that are asked by the Government during the calculation of the household poverty score. This will eventually advocate for a future inclusion of refugees in the social safety nets programme.

## Challenges

- The deteriorating food security in some neighboring countries could trigger population movement into Djibouti.
- Given the resource constraints, WFP is prioritizing both the food distributions 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.
- Unless WFP Djibouti receives additional funding contributions, WFP Djibouti will face a shortfall for all school feeding commodities and therefore will not be able to provide school meals from January 2019.

## Donors

USA, France, European Commission, Multilateral and Canada.