



World Food Programme

SAVING LIVES  
CHANGING LIVES

# WFP Djibouti Country Brief August 2019

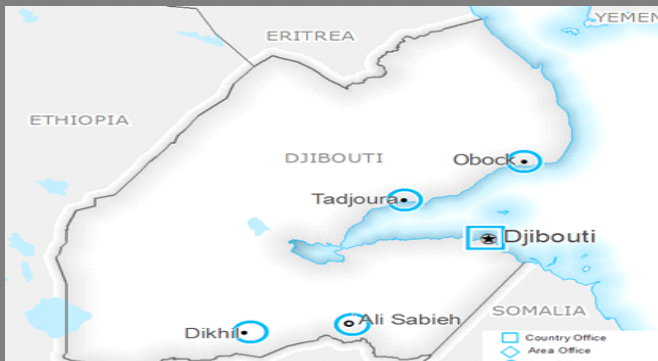


## Operational Context

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 UNDAF 2018-2022.



Population: **1.1 million**

2018 Human Development Index:  
**172 out of 189**

Income Level: **Lower middle**

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

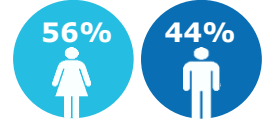
## In Numbers

**305.3 MT** of food assistance distributed

**USD 0.189 m** cash-based transfers made

**USD 3.8m** Six months (September 2019-February 2020) net funding requirements

**44,100 people assisted**  
in August 2019



## Operational Updates

- Djibouti hosts 30,189\* refugees from Somalia, Yemen, Eritrea and Ethiopia who reside in settlements. WFP provides assistance to 23,000 registered refugees and asylum seekers living in Ali Addeh, Holl Holl and Markazi camps in form of in-kind general distributions, nutrition support and a cash transfer component as part of the general distribution.
- In August 2019, WFP provided assistance to 44,100 people including, refugees, asylum seekers, and vulnerable local households in rural and urban areas through food rations and cash to meet their immediate food needs.
- WFP Djibouti registered 3,000 households under the urban social protection program using SCOPE as a transfer tool to beneficiaries.
- WFP Djibouti together with UNHCR, the Ministry of Social Affairs and Solidarity (MASS), Ministry of Interior (ONARS), and the Djiboutian National Statistics Institute (INSD) has finalized the preparation phase of the household / Minimum Expenditure Basket (MEB) survey in the refugees' settlements which will be launched in September.
- Djibouti Country Office is planning to carry out two Seasonal Livelihood Programming sessions (SLP's) in the frame of the Food for Assets creation activity, in Tadjourah and Obock regions in September. In August 2019, Heads of the Sub Offices met local leaders and decentralized services to ensure their active participation.
- WFP facilitated the Global Child Nutrition Foundation survey to the Ministry of National Education and Vocational trainings. The results of the survey will be used as part of a global database for the baseline situation of school feeding.
- WFP, in collaboration with UNICEF and the Ministry of Health, organized the World Breastfeeding Day Ceremony on 14 August in Djibouti. WFP Djibouti works hand-in-hand with UNICEF to conduct trainings for health professionals and community workers in the area of Infant, Young child and maternal nutrition.

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\* The refugees and asylum seekers figures are from August 2019 UNHCR report.

## T-ICSP (2018-2019)

Total Requirement (in USD)	Allocated Contributions (in USD)	Six Month Net Funding Requirements (in USD)
<b>26.9 m</b>	<b>20.5 m</b>	<b>3.8 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 non-food assistance as well as 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 6-59 months, 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 specialized nutritious foods and nutrition education for prevention of chronic malnutrition in children 6-23 months and PLWs, treatment of MAM in children 6-59 months and PLW; and prevention of acute malnutrition among children aged 24-59 months where GAM rates exceed 15 percent
- 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

## Monitoring

- In accordance with the monitoring framework of the Cash Distribution in urban area, WFP together with the Ministry of Social Affairs and Solidarity (MASS) completed post distribution monitoring as well as trader monitoring to assess the distribution process (quality, utilization and beneficiary perceptions among others).
- The first draft report (elaborated by Key Aid Consulting) on the feasibility to use the cash modality in rural areas is now available. Official presentation and validation will take place in October.
- WFP Djibouti is preparing for a retailers' capacity assessment for the Urban Cash programme with the aim of expanding its current roster of retailers. This is scheduled to take place in early September.

## Challenges

- Given the resource constraints, WFP is prioritizing food distributions and nutrition interventions for refugees. WFP requires additional resources to be able to respond to the needs of refugees, as well as the food insecure host community populations.
- Unless contributions are received soon, the school feeding activity will face a shortfall of all commodities in December 2019, potentially affecting school attendance. WFP has informed the Ministry of Education of the impending break and is looking for contributions to avoid a suspension of its programme.

## Donors

Australia, Canada, European Commission, France, Japan, Multilateral, and USA