



World Food Programme

SAVING LIVES  
CHANGING LIVES

# WFP Djibouti Country Brief

October 2021

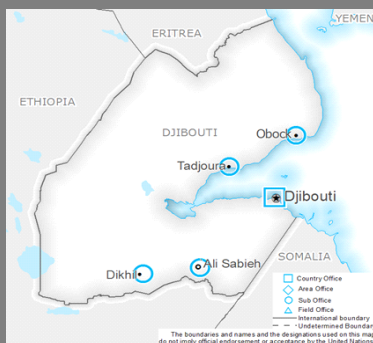


## Operational Context

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 USD 1.90 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**

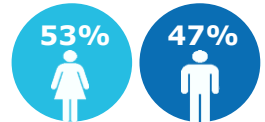
## In Numbers

**382.8 mt** of food assistance distributed

**USD 318,819** cash-based transfers made

**USD 4.3 mt** six months (November – April 2021) net funding requirements

**43,410 people** assisted in October 2021



## Operational Updates

In October, WFP provided food and nutrition assistance to approximately 43,410 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 signed a data sharing agreement to introduce a biometric system in the use of SCOPE cards. This will improve the identification of beneficiaries receiving WFP's assistance and avoid duplication at distribution sites. In September, WFP provided food assistance to 20,915 refugees in all refugee camps in Djibouti.
- A total of 196 households, with at least one family member living with HIV, received food assistance through vouchers valued at DJF 10,000 (USD 56).
- WFP in collaboration with the Ministry of Social Affairs and Solidarities (MASS), provided food assistance to 1,066 vulnerable rural households impacted by the drought across the rural regions of Djibouti.

### COVID-19 response:

WFP, in collaboration with the MASS, provided food assistance through vouchers of a value of USD 56.4 each to 1,182 households living in the five regions' county towns and who have been affected by the impact of COVID-19 and the associated restrictive measures.

### Food assistance for assets:

With the technical help and expertise of Giertsen International Company, WFP successfully installed water pumps powered by solar panels in the agricultural cooperative of Douda. The energy produced by these solar panels feeds water pumps which irrigate agricultural lands. This solar pumping system helps reduce electricity bills, improve food security and generate income for farmers

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## Country strategic plan (2020 - 2024)

Total Requirement (in USD)	Allocated Contributions (in USD)	Six Month Net Funding Requirements (in USD)
83.3 m	39.2 m	4.3 m

### 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

A training on storekeeping for school students was launched in October at the Balbala center. The training will last nine months and will allow the students to build key skills in logistics and warehouse management.

## Supply Chain

- **Port Operation:** In October, WFP Djibouti received four bulk wheat vessels for a total of 150,000 mt of wheat transported for the National Disaster Risk Management Commission (NDRMC) in Ethiopia.
- The vessel "MV Spiekeroog" arrived on 24 October in Djibouti, picking up supplies to be transferred to Somalia and carrying out bunkering operations at Djibouti port.
- WFP is monitoring the security situation in Ethiopia to make sure to continue the dispatches and find alternative routes and transport modalities upon need.

## Forecast-based Financing

WFP developed standard operating procedures (SOPs) for the implementation of the identified anticipatory actions to mitigate the impacts of drought.

## Monitoring

- As part of the post-distribution monitoring (PDM) survey planned for November, WFP provided training to 60 enumerators coming from all five regions of Djibouti and selected the most competent to be part of the survey in order to improve the quality of data collection. Data collection is planned to be completed by the end of November.
- WFP in collaboration with the Ministry of Health and the Ministry of Social Affairs and Solidarities re-launched an assessment targeting People Living with HIV (PLHIV) to assess and register populations in the national register, based on their levels of food security and vulnerability
- **Market prices:** between September and October 2021 prices of food products increased: fresh vegetables increased by 7.2 percent, meats by 2.1 percent and dairy by 0.2 percent. WFP continues to closely monitor markets, in view of the situation in Ethiopia.

## Donors (in alphabetical order):

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