Operational Updates

- In November, WFP provided food and nutrition assistance to approximately 95,855 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 in collaboration with UNHCR and Ministry of Social Affairs and Solidarities (MASS) started sensitization sessions to beneficiaries on the recently signed data sharing agreement to use biometric data for SCOPE cards and get their consent to share their personal data.
- In November, WFP provided food assistance to 21,698 refugees in all three refugee camps in Djibouti.
- A total of 197 households, with at least one family member living with HIV, received food assistance through vouchers valued at DJF 10,000 (USD 56).

COVID-19 response:
- WFP, in collaboration with the MASS, provided food assistance through vouchers valued at USD 56.4 each to 1,200 households living in the five County towns, who have been affected by the impact of COVID-19 and the associated restrictive measures.

Food assistance for assets:
- WFP provided in kind food assistance to a total of 8,633 beneficiaries in rural areas for their participation in the creation of assets, rehabilitation of mangroves and gardens and reforestation activities, thus improving their resilience thanks to the income generated by their production.

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 66 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.

In Numbers

- 517.4 mt of food assistance distributed
- USD 265,788 cash-based transfers made
- USD 2.8 million six months (December – May 2021) net funding requirements
- 95,855 people assisted in November 2021

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Capacity building
- WFP facilitated the training of trainers to staff from the Ministry of Education and Vocational Training (MENFOP) in logistics and supported the Ministry in the revision of the logistics training programmes and standards. Three pedagogic seminars were organized in November to allow the MENFOP staff to familiarize with the revised logistics standards for training programmes.

Supply Chain
- **Port Operation**: In November, WFP facilitated the arrival and discharge operations of the vessel ASI-M, transporting 40,000 mt of wheat for The National Disaster Risk Reduction and Management Commission (NDRMC) in Ethiopia. This dispatch is taking place in the context of the signed agreement (Bilateral Service Provision) between WFP Ethiopia and NDRMC in support of the Government of Ethiopia for a total of 700,000 mt in 2021.
- **Bilateral Service Provision**: Thanks to the investments in cold chain storage, WFP has been able to support the Covid-19 response by storing one pallet of Johnson & Johnson vaccines for UNICEF for a total of 50,000 doses, which are kept in the reefers at WFP’s Humanitarian Logistcs Base at -15 °C to -25°C.

Forecast-based Financing
- In November, Columbia University signed an agreement to support capacity building of the National Meteorological Agency of Djibouti to help them implement triggers and thresholds for drought forecasting.

Monitoring
- WFP conducted an assessment of food security and nutritional vulnerabilities of People Living with HIV in close collaboration with the Ministry of Health, the Ministry of Social Affairs and UNAIDS. Preliminary results were presented on December 23rd. The price of oil and pasta increased sharply, respectively by +18.9 percent and +14.6 percent compared to October 2021. The price of sugar increased slightly in November 2021, by +5.9 percent, compared to last year.

**Donors** (in alphabetical order):
- Canada, CERF, Denmark, European Union, France, Japan, Russian Federation, Multilateral donors and USA.