



World Food Programme

SAVING LIVES  
CHANGING LIVES

# WFP Djibouti Country Brief December 2022

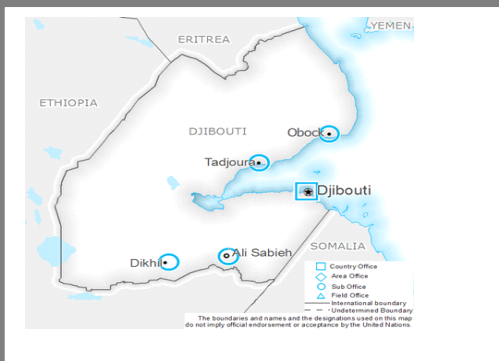


## Operational Context

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 must 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 include life-saving interventions to improve food and nutrition security for the most vulnerable crisis-affected people. WFP helps communities by distributing food including specialized nutritious foods. WFP also works with the Government of Djibouti on the strengthening of the national social registry and to provide vocational training and capacity strengthening in the transport and commodity handling sectors for partners, refugees, and local population. WFP's operations are aligned with the Vision 2035, the national strategy which promotes food security and



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

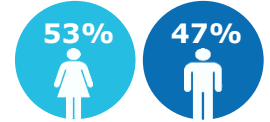
**788 mt** of food assistance distributed

**USD 469,629** in cash-based transfers

**USD 1.5 M** six months (Jan 2023 – June 2023)  
net funding requirements

**61,967 people assisted**

in December 2022



## Operational Updates

- In December, WFP provided food and nutrition assistance to **61,967** people, including refugees, asylum seekers and vulnerable households in rural and urban areas through unconditional food assistance and cash-based transfers (CBT).

### Drought Response:

- WFP provided 451 mt of food assistance to **13,582** beneficiaries in the regions of Tadjourah, Arta, Obock, Dikhil and Ali Sabieh to meet their immediate food and nutrition needs. WFP also provided nutrition support, distributing 46 mt of specialised nutritious food to **2,174** children aged 6-59 months and **1,674** pregnant and lactating women and girls in Ali Sabieh, Arta and Tadjourah.
- In collaboration with the Ministry of Social Affairs and Solidarity, WFP disbursed USD 67,200 in December to households living in county towns and affected by the drought and the global food crisis. A total of **6,000** beneficiaries received food assistance through electronic vouchers, amounting to 56 USD per households, per month. The programme will run for six months.
- WFP in collaboration with IOM continued to provide hot meals to 300 migrants in the Migration Response Centre (MRC) in Obock.

### Assistance to refugees and asylum seekers:

- WFP provided food and nutrition assistance to **23,798** refugees in all three refugee settlements in Djibouti. WFP further provided 2 mt of specialized nutritious foods to the health facilities in the three refugee camps for the treatment of moderate acute malnourished (MAM). The SNFs was allocated to feed 100 pregnant and lactating women and girls, 170 children under 5 years old and 35 people living with HIV.

### Social protection:

- As part of the implementation of the European Union funded Sustainable Solutions Project, WFP conducted a review of the Project and developed an accelerated implementation plan for 2023, the final year of the programme. The findings of the rapid assessment were used for the development of the workplan for 2023 and will feed into the advocacy of programme adjustments, continuation and scale-up.
- WFP and the Ministry of Social Affairs and Solidarity successfully rolled out a pilot initiative on 'The Integration of Refugees in the National Safety Net' to ensure refugees benefit from the national safety nets. Under this pilot, WFP disbursed USD 28,000 to **2,390** urban refugees in cash-based transfer. In parallel to the national safety net programme, Programme National Solidarite Famille (PNSF), WFP provided cash-based transfers to **5,045** vulnerable and extremely poor beneficiaries. Additionally, **310** people living with HIV received cash-based transfers, amounting to USD 56 per family, per month.

### Nutrition:

- WFP provided 46 mt of specialized nutritious foods in all health facilities for the treatment of moderate acute malnutrition. A total of 3,511 children under 5 years and 1,601 pregnant and lactating women and girls were reached with this nutrition support for the treatment of moderate acute malnourished.

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## Country strategic plan (2020 - 2024)

Total Requirement (in USD)	Allocated Contributions (in USD)	Six Month Net Funding Requirements (in USD)
<b>83.3 m</b>	<b>57.3 m</b>	<b>1.5 m</b>

### 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:

1. Provide food assistance and nutrition services, including nutrient rich food and nutrition education and counselling to refugees and asylum seekers living in settlements
2. 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:

3. 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.
4. 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:

5. Provide supply chain services to the humanitarian community (on a full cost-recovery basis)
6. Provide vocational training and capacity strengthening in the transport and commodity handling sectors for partners, refugees and local population

#### Capacity strengthening:

- Capacity strengthening continued to be at the heart of WFP's work in Djibouti. WFP supported the Ministry of Social Affairs and Solidarity in the evaluation of the national social protection strategy 2018-2022. The evaluation was endorsed by the Ministry, in the presence of all partners and UN agencies, on 16 December. Additionally, technical assistance was provided to the Ministry on the development of a terms of reference for the formulation of a new strategy for 2023-2027.
- Under its capacity strengthening initiative to the national school feeding programme, WFP is supporting the Ministry of Education and Vocational Training (MENFOP) to renovate school canteens. In December, an assessment mission was undertaken by WFP to the targeted schools to establish the scope of work. The renovation of 20 school canteens is planned to be finalized in 2023.

#### Forecast-based Financing:

- WFP is finalizing an MoU with the National Meteorological Agency of Djibouti (ANMD) for sharing meteorological information. WFP, in partnership with the Meteorological Agency and the Executive Secretariat for Risk and Disaster Management has launched the first steps for an early warning system. Anticipatory actions SOPs have been finalized with the relevant partners

#### Food assistance for assets:

- WFP in partnership with FAO has been supporting farmers to optimize agricultural gardens to address their immediate food needs while improving their long-term food security and resilience. In the five regions of Tadjourah, Arta, Dikhil, Obock and Ali Sabieh, FAO equipped the participants with agricultural trainings and provided garden ploughs and watering cans. WFP provided cash-based transfers to 200 participants as an incentive and to cover the food needs of the household. WFP disbursed USD 17,000 to cover the food needs of 1,000 beneficiaries. The last transfer of an 11-months project was conducted in December.

#### Monitoring:

- WFP Djibouti started its mid-term review of the Country Strategic Plan (CSP) 2020-2024. The key objective is to assess the performance of the CSP during the first three years of implementation and to provide reliable and useful information for improving the remaining programming and to achieve the outcomes. The first draft of the mid-term review report is expected in February.
- WFP conducted a rapid assessment in border localities of Dikhil region in December, to check the actual number of people in need and to categorize their needs in terms of food assistance or nonfood assistance. The findings revealed that the population is need of food, shelter and water. WFP included the new households identified in WFP's assistance.

#### Supply Chain:

- The Humanitarian Logistics Hub (HLB) is a strategic pre-positioning point for humanitarian aid including food and non-food items for operations in Djibouti, Somalia, Yemen, South Sudan, Ethiopia and other countries in the region. In December, 9300 mt of food were received, of which 8,268 mt have been dispatched to their destinations.
- For Djibouti operations, the HLB facilitated dispatch of 787.9 mt of food commodities to Ali Sabieh, Arta, Dikhil Obock and Tadjoura regions.
- For the Ethiopia operations, 27,200 mt of wheat and 1,176 mt of pulses have been dispatched.

**Donors** (in alphabetical order): France, Germany, Japan, UNCF, UNICEF, Multilateral donors, Private Sector donors, Saudi Arabia and USA.