



World Food Programme

SAVING LIVES
CHANGING LIVES

WFP Djibouti Country Brief

June 2023

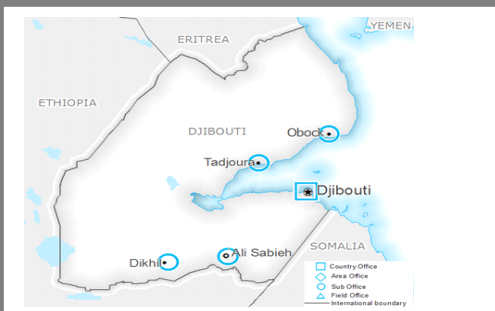


Operational Context

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 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

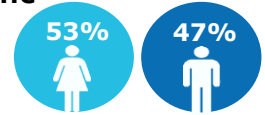
In Numbers

207 MT of food distributed

USD 186,577 cash-based transfers

USD 4.4M net funding requirements (August-January 2024)

53,207 people assisted in June



Operational Updates

- In June, WFP provided food and nutrition assistance to **53,207 beneficiaries**, including refugees and asylum seekers in rural and urban areas.

Drought Response

- In June, WFP provided **339 MT of in-kind food** to **12,250 drought affected people** in the regions of Tadjourah, Obock and Dikhil, to meet their food and nutrition needs.
- Working together with the Ministry of Social Affairs and Solidarity, WFP facilitated cash-based transfers to 6,000 beneficiaries in Djibouti City, using electronic vouchers. The total amount disbursed was USD 67,796, providing each household with USD 56 per month.

Assistance to refugees and asylum seekers

- In June, WFP provided **166 MT of food assistance to 24,567 refugees** residing in Ali Addeh, Holl Holl, and Markazi refugee camps. Additionally, WFP provided **cash-based transfers (CBT) amounting to 157,000 USD**. Furthermore, WFP assisted **1,664 migrants** by providing 1 MT of High Energy Biscuits through International Organization for Migration (IOM).

Social protection

- 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"*.
- Under this pilot, WFP disbursed USD 40,320 to 4,100 urban refugees in cash-based transfers.
- In parallel to the national safety net programme (PNSF), WFP provided **cash-based transfers to 9,000 beneficiaries**. Additionally, 1,620 people living with HIV received cash-based transfers, amounting to **USD 56 per family**, per month.

School Meals

- As part of the school feeding program, a training session was conducted for **50 school gardeners**. The training aimed to equip them with essential skills in agricultural techniques, as well as knowledge on how to maintain and sustain school gardens effectively.
- Currently, there are 50 school gardens, and the school gardeners will receive cash-based transfers.

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Photo caption: Beneficiaries wait to receive in-kind food assistance during the drought response (2022). Credits: WFP

Country strategic plan (2020 - 2024)

Total Requirement (in USD)	Allocated Contributions (in USD)	Six Month Net Funding Requirements (in USD)
104.7 m	67.5 m	4.4 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:

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

Nutrition

- A pilot project to support beneficiaries with fresh food vouchers to improve nutrition of vulnerable groups is being initiated. A market analysis has been carried out. In the month of June, an expression of interest for local traders has been launched, for them to provide fresh food.

Monitoring

- Livestock dynamics analysis was integrated in the [Multisectoral report](#) stating that about **2,000 camels and 4,500 oxen died in 2022** in all interior regions due to lack of pasture or diseases/epizootics. In addition, 67,000 small ruminants died, mostly in Dikhil, due to lack of water and about 3,000 poultry, due to lack of food or to diseases.
- The **WFP programme process monitoring** report for June assessed 15 sites in two interior regions (Dikhil and Tadjourah). The findings revealed that the distribution of wheat did not precisely align with the needs of the beneficiaries, and in some cases, beneficiaries were observed to sell the wheat on a small scale. To enhance the effectiveness of the programme, the report suggests the need for improved communication with targeted communities before distribution. This includes better informing the communities about the targeting criteria, the start date and time of distribution, the contents of the food basket, and the availability of complaint mechanisms.

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 June**, WFP Djibouti Supply Chain completed the dispatch of **200 MT** of pulses, super cereal, vegetable oil, wheat. The products were dispatched to the city of **Djibouti**, Obock, Arta, Ali Sabieh, Dikhil and Tadjourah. In addition, a total of **23,250 MT of food** was dispatched to several cities of Ethiopia namely Dire Dawa, Jijiga, Mekele, Nazareth and Semera.
- The HLB received three vessels carrying essential food supplies. The first vessel, MV China Spirit, transported 5,000 MT of rice diverted from Yemen. The second vessel, MV African Harrier, delivered 13,000 MT of rice intended for Ethiopia, with 2,590 MT transported by railway. The third vessel, MV Akdeniz M, carried 30,000 MT of wheat, and 2,590 MT out of the planned 5,180 MT were transported by railway to Ethiopia.
- As **Bilateral-service provision service**, the HLB received, under the [Safer emergency project](#) with UNDP Yemen, 45 pallets of oil pollution control and spill clean-up equipment, as well as 1228 boxes of safety equipment. As part of this emergency project, 3x40-foot cubic containers were shipped in record time to Aden and 7x20-foot containers to Hodeida in Yemen, during the month, on behalf of BSP's partners. In addition, 15x40-foot containers of marine equipment (buoys) are being shipped to Hodeida via Jeddah.