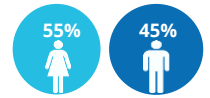




World Food Programme

SAVING LIVES
CHANGING LIVES

WFP Djibouti Country Brief October 2024



In Numbers

38,510 people assisted in October

193 metric tons (MT) of in-kind food distributed

USD 348,246 cash-based transfers

USD 8.4 million net funding requirements (November 2024 - April 2025)

Operational Context

Djibouti is a small low-middle income country in the Horn of Africa. With a population of 1.1 million, an estimated 23 percent of its population lives in extreme poverty. In the 2023 Global Hunger Index, the country was ranked 93 out of 125 countries with a severity score categorized as serious.

The climate is hot and dry, with an average annual rainfall of 130 mm, limiting agricultural production that accounts for only three percent of the Gross Domestic Product. As a result, the country imports 90 percent of its food, making it highly dependent on international market prices. Price fluctuations directly impact people's purchasing power, particularly low and middle-income rural and women-headed households, who spend 77 percent of their household budget on food.

Based on the 2024 food security assessment, it is estimated that 285,000 persons (about 24 percent of the population) will face crisis and emergency levels of food insecurity (IPC 3 and above) from July to December 2024. Furthermore, 41,300 cases of acute malnutrition are expected among children aged under five, and nearly 1,050 cases among pregnant and breastfeeding women and girls (PBWGs). WFP's operations in Djibouti aim to improve food and nutrition security for the most vulnerable people including refugees, asylum seekers, and rural communities with limited access to resources. WFP also works with the Government of Djibouti on strengthening social protection programs and capacity in the transport and commodity handling sectors for humanitarian and development actors. WFP's operations are aligned with the national strategy, Vision 2035, which promotes food security and nutrition, as well as the United Nations Development Assistance Framework (UNDAF) 2018-2024.

Population: 1.1 million	2023/2024 Human Development Index: 171 out of
Income Level: Lower middle	Chronic malnutrition: 31 percent of children between 6-59

Operational Updates

- WFP provided food assistance and resilience-building support to 38,510 food insecure people, 55 percent of whom are women, to improve their food security and strengthen their resilience.
- WFP urgently requires USD 8.4 million between November 2024 and April 2025 to continue supporting food-insecure populations to prevent further deterioration of food insecurity and malnutrition. Funding gaps are expected in February 2025, and will mostly affect nutrition interventions.
- Insecurity in the Red Sea is disrupting WFP's supply chain, causing delays in food deliveries to Djibouti. This has seriously constrained WFP interventions in Djibouti since June 2024.

Food and Nutrition Assistance (Crisis Response)

- WFP has partnered with the Ministry of Interior, the United Nations High Commission for Refugees (UNHCR), and the International Organization for Migration (IOM) as part of its emergency food assistance.
- In October, WFP provided unconditional food assistance to 22,200 refugees and asylum seekers in Ali-Addeh, Holl-Holl and Markazi settlements through in-kind food and cash-based transfers. WFP distributed 156 MT of rice, pulses, and fortified oil and transferred cash-based transfers worth USD 161,895.
- In Ali-Addeh and Holl-Holl (Ali Sabieh region), WFP distributed 29 MT of assorted commodities to 2,800 asylum seekers waiting for their application to be processed. This essential food assistance allowed them to meet their immediate food needs. WFP also provided hot meals and fortified biscuits to 3,500 migrants staying at IOM migration centres across the country.

Resilience Building Interventions

- WFP continued to strengthen its collaboration with the Ministry of Social Affairs and Solidarities (MASS) and the Ministry of Education and Vocational Training (MENFOP) to strengthen national social protection initiatives, benefitting approximately 6,720 individuals.
- WFP transferred USD 111,400 to more than 1,300 households enrolled in the national safety net programme. Households with pregnant or breastfeeding women and children under two years received a fresh food voucher worth USD 28 as a top-up to the USD 56 cash-based transfers to improve their access to diversified healthy meals. Households were able to purchase fish, eggs, poultry, fresh fruits, and vegetables through retailers contracted by the WFP in Djibouti City.

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Photo (WFP/Nima Osman Nour): Mr. Agbessi Amewoa, WFP Country Director and Representative in Djibouti, being interviewed during the UN Day celebration (Djibouti city).

Country strategic plan (2020 - 2024)

Total Requirement (in USD)	Allocated Contributions (in USD)	Six Month Net Requirements (in USD)	Funding
104.7 m	89.5 m	8.4 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)

- As part of its Food Assistance for Assets Creation (FFA) programme, WFP, in collaboration with MENFOP enrolled 44 school gardeners who received cash-based transfers as an incentive for their support in maintaining school gardens established across all five regions of the country (Arta, Ali Sabieh, Dikhil, Obock, and Tadjourah). The fresh produce from the school gardens is utilized in the national school feeding programme.

Nutrition

- WFP nutrition response integrates social behaviour change communication at the community level. WFP, through its network of trained women— also known as counselling mothers— ensured referrals of malnutrition cases to the health centres, sensitized communities on vaccination and optimal breastfeeding practices, and emphasized the importance of pre-natal care and post-natal care. Counselling mothers received cash-based transfers amounting to USD 56 each as an incentive which also aligned with the transfer value of the national safety net programme.
- In partnership with the Ministry of Health, WFP provided cash-based transfers worth USD 32,000, to 570 food insecure households with people living with HIV and tuberculosis. This assistance enabled targeted households to meet their essential food needs.

Supply Chain

- WFP received 119 MT of commodities, mainly pulses and vegetable oil, for its operations in Djibouti. In addition, Djibouti is a critical corridor for humanitarian operations in the region, in October, over 2,500 MT of bagged rice was transferred by train from Djibouti to Dire Dawa, in Ethiopia. Compared to road transport, transportation by train allowed WFP to reduce costs, shorten lead time, and decrease its carbon footprint using 37 wagons of the electrical train instead of 74 trucks.
- WFP supply chain transferred over 2,000 MT of Super Cereal Plus to the humanitarian logistics Base from where it was unstuffed and transferred to Ethiopia as loose cargo. The specialized nutritious foods were transferred by road, using commercial trucks.
- WFP completed the first phase rollout of PRISMA, an innovative automated tool aimed at enhancing supply chain tasks from data processing to reconciliation. By utilizing PRISMA, WFP aims to significantly reduce the time spent on data processing, allowing for a greater focus on planning and risk anticipation.

UNHAS Operations

- WFP Djibouti team supported the United Nations Humanitarian Air Service (UNHAS) operations, ensuring safe transport for over 1,400 passengers from 18 UN agencies and 49 international Non-Governmental Organizations. The team supported 86 UNHAS Yemen flights, connecting eight destinations, including five within Yemen — Aden, Marib, Mukalla, Sana'a, and Seiyun — and three international routes to Ethiopia, Jordan, and the Republic of Djibouti.

Market Monitoring

- A 20 percent increase in the prices of rice and flour was observed in October. Prices for commodities such as vegetable oil, sugar, and pasta remained stable. In the interior regions, food prices decreased by an average of 12 percent.

Donors (in alphabetical order): France, Germany, Japan, Multilateral donors, and United States of America