



World Food Programme

SAVING
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WFP Djibouti Country Brief July 2025



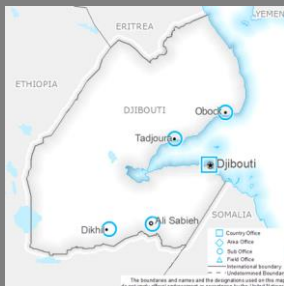
Operational Context

The Republic of Djibouti is a small low-middle income country with about 1.1 million people. Due to its dry climate and annual rainfall averaging just 130 mm, agricultural production is limited, making the country heavily reliant on food imports (90 percent). Ranked 92nd out of 127 countries in the 2024 Global Hunger Index, Djibouti's hunger situation is classified as serious.

In **July 2025, the government declared the drought a national emergency** and launched a response plan led by the Prime Minister to deliver urgent and coordinated assistance to affected communities. While the government has taken important steps to address the crisis, the needs across the country remain high, requiring strong support from all partners to complement the government's efforts.

Results of the Integrated Food Security Phase Classification (IPC) analysis conducted in May 2025 projects that 230,000 people—around 22 percent of the population—will face Crisis or Emergency levels of food insecurity (IPC Phase 3 and above) from July to December 2025. Malnutrition remains a serious concern. Three of the five regions—Dikhil, Obock and Tadjourah—are facing critical levels of acute malnutrition (IPC 4). Moderate acute malnutrition is also affecting over 34,300 children under the age of five as well as pregnant and breastfeeding women and girls.

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 resources. WFP also supports national efforts in social protection and logistics, aligning its operations with Djibouti's Vision 2035 and the UN Sustainable Development Cooperation Framework (2025–2030).



Population: 1.1 million

2023/2024 Human Development Index: 171 out of 193

Income Level: Lower middle

Chronic malnutrition: 31 percent of children between 6-59 months

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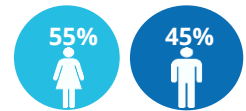
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Photo: WFP/ Nima Nour. Abdi Mohamed Amin receives vegetable oil during a general food distribution at Holl-Holl refugee settlement in Ali Sabieh region.

In Numbers

72,093 people assisted in July



175.3 Metric ton (mt) of in-kind food distributed

USD 177,805 cash-based transfers

USD 10.4 million net funding requirements (August 2025 to January 2026)

Operational Updates

Crisis response

- For its refugee response in Djibouti, WFP partnered with the Ministry of Interior and the United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees (UNHCR) to deliver emergency food assistance to 21,200 refugees and asylum seekers in the Ali-Addeh, Holl-Holl, and Markazi refugee settlements. WFP provided 10 mt of food and USD 92,000, helping meet urgent food needs through both in-kind and cash-based modalities.
- As part of its humanitarian response, WFP provided emergency food assistance to 2,400 individuals currently awaiting asylum seeker status in the refugees' settlements of Ali-Addeh, Holl-Holl, and Markazi. These individuals who have no access to other resources or support received 16 MT of assorted food commodities to help meet their immediate food needs.
- Amid Djibouti's ongoing drought emergency, WFP sustained its unconditional food assistance to approximately 4,500 households – representing 22,500 individuals – living in urban areas classified as IPC Phase 3 (Crisis) and above. WFP provided cash-based transfers totalling USD 243,000, enabling them to access essential food items from local markets and mitigate the impact of severe food insecurity.

School meals

- To support the livelihoods of 68 gardeners maintaining school gardens, and their families, WFP provided cash transfers under its food assistance for assets creation (FFA) initiative. The amount transferred covered two months of support, enabling gardeners meet their food needs, reduce transport costs for gardeners, and ensure the continued upkeep of the gardens during school holidays. These school gardens are designed to enrich and diversify school meals, while also serving an educational purpose. This intervention was implemented in collaboration with the Ministry of Education and Vocational Training (MENFOP), as part of the national school feeding programme.

Nutrition

- In July, WFP provided critical nutrition support for the prevention and management of malnutrition, reaching 27,600 individuals.
- WFP supported the management of moderate acute malnutrition (MAM) for 6,700 vulnerable individuals, including children under the age of five, pregnant and breastfeeding women and girls, as well as individuals living with HIV (PLHIV) and tuberculosis (TB). In partnership with the Ministry of Health, WFP supplied 91 mt of specialized nutritious food (SNF), distributed through 60 health centres across the country.
- To help prevent malnutrition in the context of the ongoing drought emergency, WFP reached 20,900 individuals living in areas classified as IPC Phase 3 and above with nutrition support. WFP distributed 75 metric tons of SNF across 91 localities, delivering critical assistance to vulnerable households at high risk of malnutrition.

Country strategic plan (2020 - 2025)

Total Requirement (in USD)	Allocated Contributions (in USD)	Six Month Net Funding Requirements (in USD)
132.4 m	96.1 m	10.4 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)

Supply Chain

- To support operational needs and food distribution in Ethiopia, WFP dispatched 5,416 mt of food commodities of from Djibouti to Ethiopia using WFP fleet and commercial trucks.
- Additionally, WFP received 1,183.5 MT of SNF and vegetable oil from overseas shipments for both Ethiopia and 994 MT for the Global Commodity Management Facility (GCMF).
- To support its ongoing interventions in Djibouti, WFP delivered 175 MT of yellow split peas, vegetable oil, and wheat flour. These were dispatched to partners including the Ministry of Social Affairs and Solidarities, the Ministry of Health, the National Office for Assistance to Refugees and Disaster Victims, and the International Organization for Migration through the Last Mile Solution. The solution aims to track food items and quickly report any misuse of food assistance.

On-Demand Services (ODS)

- Through its ODS activities, WFP delivered 5,700 kilograms (kg) of TEC equipment to support emergency response efforts in Yemen. Additionally, WFP stored approximately 850 cubic meters (m³) of critical equipment related to humanitarian efforts in refugee settlements, health, and agriculture. These supplies were primarily intended for UNHCR, the United Nations Food and Agricultural Organization (FAO), and the United Nations Children Fund (UNICEF), helping to strengthen lifesaving and development interventions across Djibouti.

United Nations Humanitarian Air Service (UNHAS)

- In July, WFP team in Djibouti supported humanitarian logistics across the region. Through the United Nations Humanitarian Air Service (UNHAS), WFP facilitated the safe transport of 948 passengers from 17 UN agencies and 51 international non-governmental organizations. Through 91 UNHAS flights to and from Yemen, WFP connected five cities within Yemen (Aden, Marib, Mukalla, Sana'a, and Seiyun) and two international routes (Djibouti and Amman, Jordan). In addition to passenger transport, WFP coordinated the shipment of 285 cargo consignments from Amman to key locations in Yemen, including Sana'a, Aden, and Marib.

Monitoring

- In July, WFP conducted post-distribution monitoring (PDM) to assess the effectiveness of its food assistance programmes delivered throughout the year. The survey reached 1,500 households across Djibouti city and the five regions - Ali Sabieh, Arta, Dikhil, Obock, and Tadjourah. It covered beneficiaries of general food distributions (GFD), the Fresh Food Vouchers (FFV) initiative, and Take-Home Rations (THR). The monitoring exercise focused on household food security, gender, and accountability to affected populations. Findings will help WFP adjust its programmes to ensure they remain evidence-based, well-targeted, and responsive to the evolving needs of vulnerable communities.

Challenges

- On 2 July 2025, the Government of Djibouti declared the ongoing **drought a national emergency**. Affected communities are spread across all five regions of the country: Ali Sabieh, Arta, Dikhil, Obock, and Tadjourah. **Additional support** from all partners is essential to **complement the Government efforts**.
- **WFP urgently requires USD 10.4 million** to continue delivering lifesaving food assistance to the most vulnerable populations, especially in this context of drought emergency.

Donors (in alphabetical order): France, Ireland, Japan, Multilateral donors, Saudi Arabia, and the United States of America.