



WFP DJIBOUTI

COUNTRY BRIEF

March 2026



43,940 people assisted in February 2026
(55% female)



360 mt food distributed in February 2026



USD 260,973 cash transferred in February 2026



USD 7.7 M required in the next six months (March – August 2026)

KEY HIGHLIGHTS

- A 40 percent pipeline break is projected to start from February 2026 despite previous ration cuts, putting lifesaving assistance at imminent risk; USD 7.7 million is urgently needed to sustain support for refugees and migrants.
- Promisingly, over 80 percent of households in Ali Sabieh and Tadjourah participating in the fresh food vouchers activity already report improved food consumption levels and reduced negative coping strategies, just four months after the launch.
- WFP's Country Strategic Plan for Djibouti has been extended through 31 December 2026, pending ongoing consultations and review.

SITUATION OVERVIEW

- Djibouti, a low-middle-income country of about 1.1 million people, faces chronic food insecurity driven by its arid climate, very low annual rainfall, and limited agricultural potential. With nearly 90 percent of its food imported, the country remains highly exposed to market volatility and climate shocks. In the 2025 Global Hunger Index, Djibouti ranked 94th out of 123 countries, indicating a serious hunger situation.
- Despite the efforts deployed following the Government's declaration of a national drought emergency in July 2025 and the launch of a Prime Minister-led response plan, communities across the country continue to face severe and persistent impacts. 230,000 people—22 percent of the population—faced Crisis or Emergency levels of food insecurity (IPC Phase 3 and above) between July and December 2025.
- Malnutrition remains critical, with Dikhil, Obock and Tadjourah in IPC Phase 4 and more than 34,300 young children, pregnant women and breastfeeding women affected by moderate acute malnutrition.
- WFP, present in Djibouti since 1977, supports the Government in improving food and nutrition security for vulnerable communities while strengthening national social protection, nutrition and logistics systems. Its work aligns with Vision 2035 and the UNSDCF 2025–2030, contributing to SDG 2 and SDG 17 through improved food access and strong partnerships.

Photo Caption & Credit: Neima Ahmed, comforts her son during the nutrition assistance provided at Ali-Addeh refugee settlement. (c) WFP/Nima Nour.

OPERATIONAL UPDATES

General Food Assistance (Unconditional)

- In February, 1,979 refugees living in Markazi settlement received food assistance through e-voucher, totaling USD 44,364. This transfer covered 70 percent of the minimum food basket for each household.
- In collaboration with the Ministry of Social Affairs and Solidarities, WFP supported 5,888 climate-affected households, in Djibouti city and the five interior regions, through cash-based transfers (CBT). Each household received 10,000 DJF (USD 56) enough to cover essential food needs for the month.

Nutrition

- As part of ongoing efforts to prevent malnutrition among vulnerable populations WFP, in collaboration with the Ministry of Health, distributed 125 MT of Super Cereal Plus (CSB++) to 3,900 children under five, 3,800 pregnant and breastfeeding women and girls (PBWGs), and 580 individuals receiving Tuberculosis/HIV (TB/HIV) support. This intervention aims to meet the nutritional supplementation needs, particularly for children under five and pregnant or breastfeeding women and girls suffering from moderate acute malnutrition, for three months period.

School-Based Assistance

- WFP partnered with the Ministry of Education to provide bi-monthly cash-based assistance to 57 gardeners. This support ensures school gardens remain productive as well as serving as practical learning spaces. The gardens offer students a hands-on educational experience in agriculture and sustainability.

Social Protection

- WFP continued its Fresh Food Voucher initiative (FFV), by providing to 364 households a total of 15,000 DJF (USD 84) via the SCOPE card in Djibouti city, including pregnant women, breastfeeding mothers, and children under two (PBWGs), as well as 349 households in Tadjourah and Ali Sabieh regions. The assistance package included 10,000 DJF (USD 56) to purchase basic essential food and

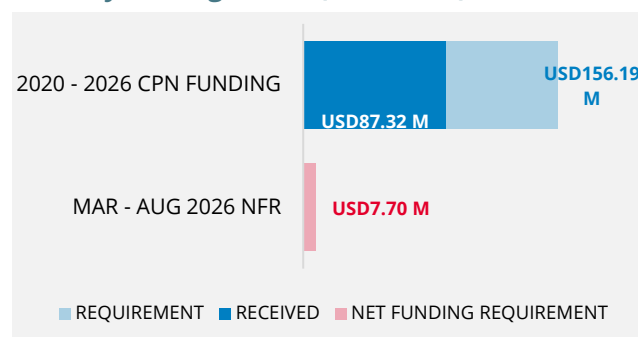
5,000 DJF (USD 28) of fresh products from local markets to enhance dietary diversity.

Supply Chain

- WFP assisted the United Nations Humanitarian Air Service (UNHAS) operations in the region, ensuring the safe transport of approximately 428 passengers from 19 UN agencies and 36 international Non-Governmental Organizations. WFP Djibouti facilitated 44 flights of UNHAS Yemen flights, connecting passengers to 6 destinations, including five within Yemen — Aden, Mukalla, Sana'a, and Seiyoun — and two international routes the Republic of Djibouti and Jordan (AMMAN).
- In February, a total of 2,025 MT of commodities were received. This included 10 MT of fortified biscuits for migrants newly arrived in Djibouti, 1,237.7 MT of Ready-to-Use Supplementary Food (RUSF) use in Ethiopia Country Office (ETCO), and 777.5 MT of vegetable oil under the Global Commodity Management Facility (GCMF).
- Simultaneously, 360 MT of CSB++, wheat flour, vegetable oil, and split peas were delivered to cooperating partners (CP) for use in their own operations. Additionally, 1,747 MT of commodities—including CSB++, vegetable oil, and RUSF—were dispatched to ETCO, whilst 96.8 MT of split peas were re-exported to Mozambique.

FUNDING OVERVIEW

Country Strategic Plan (2020-2026)



Donors:

African Development Bank (AfDB), Djibouti, France, Japan, Multilateral donors, The Netherlands, The United States of America.