



World Food Programme

SAVING LIVES
CHANGING LIVES

WFP DJIBOUTI

COUNTRY BRIEF

April 2026



54,859 people assisted in April 2026
(55% female)



524 mt food distributed in March 2026



304,083 M cash transferred in March 2026



USD 7.9M required in the next six months
(April – September 2026)

KEY HIGHLIGHTS

- A 61 percent pipeline break is projected to start from April 2026 despite previous ration cuts, putting critical and lifesaving assistance at imminent risk; WFP urgently needs USD 7.9 million for the next six months (April–September 2026) to sustain WFP's operations in Djibouti.
- Operating from Djibouti, WFP supports UNHAS Yemen operations through the safe transport of UN and NGO personnel and providing supply chain and on-demand logistics services to the wider humanitarian community.
- Despite generally stable food commodity prices, an 8 percent increase in vegetable oil has been recorded in Djibouti. As a net food importer, the country remains vulnerable to external shocks, with traders highlighting regional tensions, maritime disruptions and rising global prices.

SITUATION OVERVIEW

- Djibouti, a low-middle-income country of about 1.1 million people, faces high levels of chronic food insecurity driven by its arid climate, very low annual rainfall, and minimal agricultural production. 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 and malnutrition problem.
- Despite measures taken following the Government's declaration of a national drought emergency in July 2025, communities across the country continue to experience severe and prolonged impacts. An estimated 230,000 people, representing 22 percent of the population, faced Crisis or Emergency levels of food insecurity, IPC Phase 3 and above, between July and December 2025. Persistent water and energy shortages continue to constrain production and livelihood opportunities, limiting prospects for recovery and graduation from external assistance.
- 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. Treatment outcomes are limited by a lack of complementary prevention investments.
- 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

Reporting Period: March 2026

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

SDG 2 and SDG 17 through improved food access and strong partnerships.

OPERATIONAL UPDATES

General Food Assistance

- In March, WFP assisted 18,956 refugees in Ali Addeh and Holl-Holl settlements in the Ali Sabieh region through in-kind food assistance and cash-based transfers. WFP distributed 276 metric tons of food and USD 53,548 in cash, covering 74 percent of the daily recommended intake of 2,100 kilocalories per person, with a cash value of DJF 500, or USD 2.8, per person per month.
- In Markazi settlement in the Obock region, WFP supported 1,970 refugees through e vouchers only, valued at DJF 4,500 per person, or USD 25.4, totalling USD 43,881 and covering 70 percent of the Minimum Expenditure Basket. In addition, 1,979 refugees received food assistance through e vouchers totalling USD 44,364, covering 70 percent of the minimum food basket per household. Settlement conditions prevent households from accessing complementary food sources.
- To address the severe impacts of drought-affected populations, WFP provided in-kind food assistance to rural households classified under Integrated Food Security Phase Classification (IPC) Phase 3 (Crisis) and Phase 4 (Emergency). The intervention supported 24,415 people through the distribution of 471.2 metric tons of food commodities, including flour, oil, and pulses.

Social Protection

- WFP continued to implement its Fresh Food Voucher initiative in Djibouti city by supporting 377 urban households through SCOPE card transfers of 15,000 DJF, equivalent to USD 84, per household, targeting pregnant women, breastfeeding mothers and children under two. The assistance package combined 10,000 DJF (USD 56), for the purchase of essential food items with 5,000 DJF, or USD 28, dedicated to fresh foods sourced from local markets, with the aim of improving dietary diversity among nutritionally vulnerable groups. In parallel, under the Food Assistance for Assets initiative, WFP provided cash transfers of 10,000 DJF each to 57 gardeners involved in the management of school gardens, as well as to 30 counsellor mothers supporting nutrition activities, reinforcing community-based nutrition and food production efforts.

Price Monitoring

- In March, food commodity prices remained largely stable in Djibouti City, with most items registering no change, except for an 8 percent increase in vegetable oil. Price movements were more pronounced in regional markets, where vegetable oil prices rose by 6 percent, sugar by 4 percent, and kerosene by 17 percent. Despite overall price stability, markets remain exposed to external shocks, with traders citing concerns related to regional tensions, maritime disruptions, and rising global fuel prices.

Supply Chain

- WFP Djibouti supported UNHAS in Yemen operations by facilitating the safe transport of 318 humanitarian personnel from 17 UN agencies and 26 international non-governmental organizations. WFP operated 51 flights connecting seven destinations, including five locations in Yemen, Aden, Mukalla, Sana'a and Seiyun, as well as two international routes linking the Republic of Djibouti and Jordan through Amman.
- In March, WFP released 3,854.5 metric tons from prepositioned stocks to support the Ethiopia Country Office and delivered 658.8 metric tons of Super Cereal Plus, wheat flour, vegetable oil and split peas to cooperating partners. In addition, WFP dispatched 100 metric tons of locally procured vegetable oil to Ethiopia. In parallel, WFP continued its supply chain market assessment to anticipate potential operational adjustments in response to the evolving Middle East context.

Funding Overview

Country Strategic Plan (2020-2026)

