



WFP Djibouti Country Brief

Highlights

- WFP's ability to maintain assistance to refugees, asylum seekers and the vulnerable local populations in drought-affected and urban areas continues to be undermined by limited funding.

WFP Assistance

Enhancing the resilience of chronically vulnerable rural, urban and refugee populations and reducing undernutrition in Djibouti	Total Requirements (in USD)	Total Received (in USD)	6 Month Net Funding Requirements (in USD)*
PRRO 200824 (May 2015- Dec 2017)	42.8 m	23.9 m (56%)	4.3 m (47%)

GENDER MARKER **2A** PRRO 200824 *May 2017 – October 2017

The protracted relief and recovery operation (PRRO) aims to stabilize or reduce undernutrition among children aged 6–59 months, pregnant women and nursing mothers; stabilize or improve food consumption for targeted households and individuals; and restore or stabilize access to basic services and community assets.

WFP ensures that registered refugees and asylum seekers living in camps and the most food insecure Djiboutian populations have access to an adequate daily caloric intake through the distribution of food rations, including specialized food products. The rations are aimed at treating moderate acute malnutrition and prevent chronic and acute malnutrition. WFP also distributes cash to refugees in camps and electronic vouchers to the most vulnerable households in the suburbs of Djibouti city. Refugee girls receive a take home ration to encourage girls' school enrolment and attendance. People living with HIV/AIDS on antiretroviral treatment and TB patients on direct observation treatment are provided with specialized nutrition products to support treatment and recovery.

In addition, WFP is supporting a safety net intervention seeking to mitigate the effects of HIV/AIDS on affected households through income generating activities. WFP supports food insecure communities and households with asset creation activities that enhance their resilience to chronic shocks and risks related to climate change.

Support for the national school feeding programme	Total Requirements (in USD)	Total Received (in USD)	6 Month Net Funding Requirements (in USD)*
DEV 200498 (Jan 2013- Dec 2017)	5.3 m	4.9 m (92%)	-

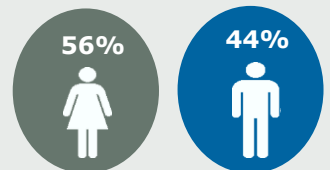
*May 2017 – October 2017

The development operation supports access to basic education for all school-aged children in rural areas and semi-urban areas of Djibouti city. The objectives are to increase access to education at regional, national and community levels; make progress towards a nationally owned school feeding programme and promote an equitable access to and utilization of education among girls in particular through the reduction of drop-out rates and improvement of attendance.

School children enjoy diversified school meals in targeted rural pre-primary and middle schools thanks to a combination of WFP-internationally purchased commodities and locally purchased fresh food with complementary funds allocated by the Government of Djibouti. A take-home ration of oil is provided to families of school girls in grade three through grade five as an incentive to send girls to school and maintain their enrolment and attendance through the 9th grade. WFP is supporting the capacity of the government towards the establishment of a sustainable national school feeding programme.

In Numbers

66,482 People Assisted
April 2017



Operational Updates

- Approximately 26,331 refugees from Somalia, Yemen, Eritrea and Ethiopia are in Djibouti, of which 21,119 reside in camps and receive monthly food and cash assistance. According to UNHCR and the Office National D'assistance aux réfugiés et sinistrés (ONARS), as of the end of April, a total of 6,063 Ethiopian asylum seekers had arrived since September 2016. WFP continues to provide food assistance to all registered refugees and asylum seekers living in Ali Addeh, Holl Holl and Markazi camps, in the form of general distributions, nutrition interventions and take home rations for school girls to encourage school attendance. The general distributions include a cash component to diversify refugees' diet, increase their purchasing power and boost the local markets.
- WFP provides food assistance to the rural and urban food insecure households affected by drought in the form of general rations. Nutrition interventions are ongoing for the prevention and treatment of moderate acute malnutrition and for people living with HIV/AIDS and those on tuberculosis treatment.
- In April 2017, WFP provided food assistance to a total of 50,160 people under the PRRO, among them refugees and asylum seekers and vulnerable local households in the rural and urban areas, while a total of 16,322 school children received school meals through the school meals programme under the Development Operation.
- According to FEWSNET, the March to May *Diraac/Sougu*m rains have so far been average to above average, but rainfall was below average in areas north of Obock city and in the southeastern border areas of Ali Sabieh and Dikhil Regions. These areas also experienced below average rainfall during the previous season. Livestock body conditions are improving alongside rainfall in most areas, but remain poorer than normal in the above areas where rainfall deficits persist.
- During the July to September pastoral lean season, when body conditions further deteriorate, it is likely some pastoralists will be unable to sell sufficient livestock or livestock products to fund adequate cereal purchases and will face *crisis* (Integrated Phase Classification (IPC) Phase 3) acute food insecurity. Livestock conditions are likely to improve around August, following the July-September *Karan/Karma* rainy season and subsequent improvements to pasture and water resources.

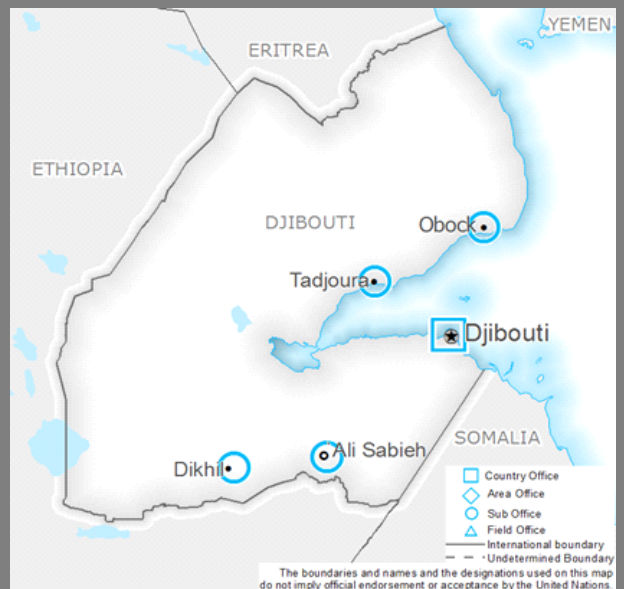
Challenges

- WFP is prioritizing general distributions and nutrition interventions for refugees, in order to stretch available resources, given the funding shortfalls the operation is facing. In view of the continued arrivals of asylum seekers in the camps, it is important to maintain adequate funding levels for both in-kind and cash-based transfers to be able to respond to increased needs.

Partnerships

- In April, WFP supported a two-day System Approach for Better Education Results – School Feeding (SABER – SF) workshop led by the Ministry of Education and Vocational Training. The aim of the workshop was to assess the level of policies and systems development for the implementation of school meals programme in Djibouti, in view of providing guidance for capacity development.

Country Background & Strategy



Djibouti is the least developed and most food deficit country in the Horn of Africa. The country has some of the worst social indicators in the world; 42 percent of the population lives in absolute poverty with 83 percent of those living in rural areas. Life expectancy is at 53 years.

The climate is hot and dry, desert-like arid, characterized by less than 200 mm of rainfall per year which hinders agricultural production, which accounts for only 3 percent of Gross Domestic Product (GDP). The country compensates the gap by importing 90 percent of its food commodities which makes the country 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 are aligned with the 2035 vision and strategies, and works with the Government to consider and support the development of food and cash-based transfer modalities according to specific contexts.

WFP has been in Djibouti since 1978.

Population: **0.9 million**

2015 Human Development Index: **168 out of 188**

Income Level: **Lower middle**

Chronic malnutrition: **30% of children between 6-59 months**

Donors

USA, Japan, European Commission, Multilateral, UNICERF and Canada.

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