



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	26 m	2.1 m (26%)

GENDER MARKER 2A PRRO 200824 *December 2017 – May 2018

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. In addition, specialized nutritious foods are provided to treat 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 nutritious foods 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	4.7 m	380,396 (45%)

* December 2017 – May 2018

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

79,568 People Assisted
November 2017



Main Photo

Credit: WFP/Datto Gaas
Caption: Biometric registration for food distribution to refugees at the Markazi camp, Obock Region



November 2017

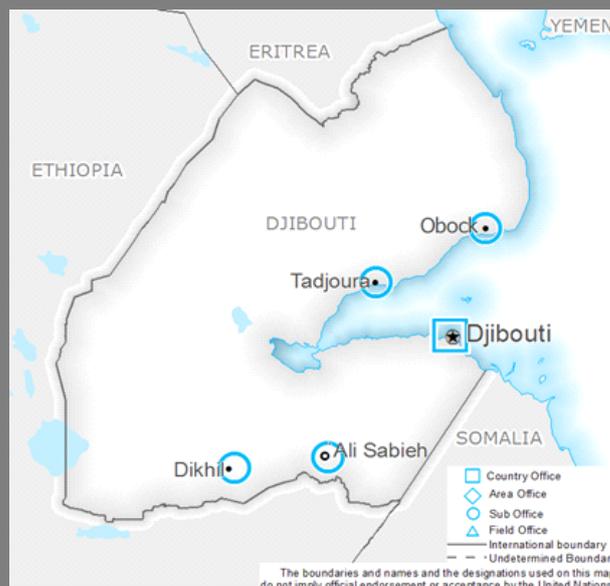
Operational Updates

- Djibouti is hosting approximately 26,331 refugees from Somalia, Yemen, Eritrea and Ethiopia, of which 21,119 reside in camps. 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 transfer component to diversify refugees' diet, increase their purchasing power and boost the local markets.
- In November 2017, WFP provided food assistance to a total of 79,568 people, including refugees, asylum seekers, vulnerable local households and school children in the rural and urban areas. WFP provides food assistance to 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.
- According to FEWSNET, The cumulative performance of Xays/Daada rains (October to February) was slightly below-average, but together with favorable 2016 Karan/Karma rainfall, has contributed to marked improvements of livestock ownership across Djibouti, except in Dikhil region, improving household incomes and food and milk access. As a result, the majority of poor households are expected to remain in Stressed (IPC Phase 2) through May 2017, ahead of the lean season.

Challenges

- Given the resourcing constraints facing the PRRO, WFP is prioritizing general food distributions and nutrition interventions for refugees, in order to stretch available resources. It is important to maintain adequate funding levels for both in-kind and cash transfers to be able to respond to increased needs among refugees and the host communities, given the deteriorating food security situation in some parts of Djibouti and in neighboring countries, which could trigger population movement into Djibouti.

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, which promotes a food security and nutrition strategy under the pillar "Strengthening Human Capital".

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, UNCRF and Canada.

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Further information: www.wfp.org/countries/djibouti