

Djibouti

March 2024

The Office of the United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees [UNHCR] in Djibouti organized a coordination meeting with all partners on Wednesday, March 21, 2024, for a **Strategic Moment of Reflection [SMR]** to **review the results achieved in 2023, identify changes in the context, and define possible strategic reorientations**. The Strategic Moment of Reflection [SMR] is an important step in the finalization of the annual report, and is used to discuss and reflect on the **impact of activities on populations, on gaps and challenges encountered**. It also serves to highlight lessons learned, as well as to formulate recommendations for possible strategic reorientation.

Held under the patronage of the **Minister of the Interior, H.E. Said Nouh Hassan**, the UNHCR Strategic Moment of Reflection [SMR] was attended by the **Resident Coordinator of the United Nations System, Mr. José Barahona**, the **IGAD Director of Health and Social Development, Ms. Fathia Alwan** and the **World Bank Representative in Djibouti, Ms. Fatou Fallou**, various partners and community leaders representing urban refugees.

KEY INDICATORS - 29 February 2024

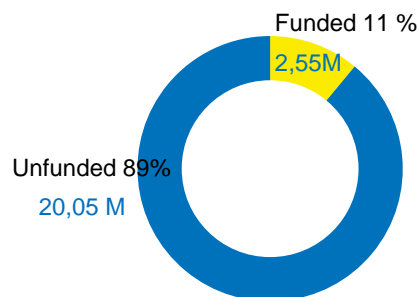
31 528 refugees & asylum seekers in Djibouti

- which **23 493** refugees & **8 035** asylum seekers
- **85%** live inside the refugee villages

POPULATION BY COUNTRY OF ORIGIN

| | |
|---------------|---------------|
| Somalia | 13 547 |
| Ethiopia | 13 004 |
| Yemen | 3 419 |
| Eritrea | 1 479 |
| Others | 79 |
| TOTAL: | 31 528 |

FUNDING SITUATION (as of 31st March 2024)



Main missions

- PRM's Africa Director, Ms. Elizabeth A. Pelletreau, accompanied by two staff members from the U.S. Embassy in Djibouti, visited the refugee village of Markazi (Obock) on Tuesday, March 12, 2024, where she spoke with community leaders of refugees and asylum seekers about their living conditions and future prospects. On Thursday, 14 March 2024, the Director met with the senior management of the UNHCR Representation in Djibouti, where several issues were discussed, including the CRRF and the importance of further promoting advocacy to optimize refugees' access to the private sector and facilitate their transition to empowerment.
- The FAO carried out an evaluation of the quality and impact of the distribution of firewood (prosopis) to refugees in the villages of Ali Addeh and Holl-Holl. This assessment was funded by ECHO, which is developing an ongoing project with FAO to develop a new approach to prosopis wood management with the aim of preserving and restoring the environment in and around the refugee villages. As a follow-up to the 2017 assessment, this study will serve as a basis for future initiatives to research and identify sustainable energy sources and environmental protection.

ACHIEVEMENTS

PROTECTION

- In March 2024, the Office of the United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees [UNHCR] renewed a total of 128 documents, including 121 family certificates (94 in Holl-Holl and 27 in Djibouti-ville) and 7 refugee identity cards (all in Djibouti-ville).
- A total of 24 individual cases had been received, appropriately advised and directed to the relevant departments. Grievances mainly concerned requests for resettlement to a third country, assistance with basic needs, requests for the addition of newborn, medical assistance and the takeover of BIMS.

Child Protection

- With the aim of making children aware of their rights, CIAUD provided information to 64 children (41 boys and 33 girls) between the ages of 7 and 10 and 46 adults, including 22 men and 24 women, in Ali Addeh and Holl-Holl.

Gender Based Violence [GBV]

- For the GBV prevention component, UNHCR's partner in the response and prevention of gender-based violence, the Union Nationale des Femmes Djiboutiennes [UNFD], organized awareness-raising campaigns and community activities on gender-based violence for 229 people (141 people in Ali Addeh & 68 in Holl-Holl, 20 in Markazi).
- Regarding the response component, the partner received 06 new cases of GBV (including cases of denial of resources, psychological and sexual violence) in the different refugee sites (2 cases in Ali-Addeh, 2 in Markazi, 1 in Holl-Holl and 1 in Djibouti-ville). The cases were referred to the competent authorities (Cadi of the respective villages, the mobile court, the health center and the police).
- Thirty-five (35) girls and women were trained in making handbags, necklaces and palms as part of the activities of the Women and Girls Center in Markazi.

DURABLES SOLUTIONS

- In the area of family reunification, resettlement interviews were conducted for 13 cases involving 70 individuals as part of the update of resettlement cases submitted to the United States.
- Following the Regional Director's visit to Djibouti in February 2024, a Focus Group Discussion (FGD) was organized to address the current grievances of the refugees living in the Ali-Addeh compound. This initiative was highly appreciated by the refugees and asylum-seekers.

EDUCATION

- UNHCR's partner in integrating refugees into the national education system, MENFOP, has helped 158 refugee teachers from Ali Addeh and Holl-Holl to open bank accounts at East Africa Bank. Paying salaries through bank transfers is a major step forward in the financial inclusion of refugees.
- The second quarter exams were held between February 25 and 29 at schools in Ali Addeh and Holl-Holl villages for grades 1 to 4. The OTI mock exams for grade 5 were held on February 26. The BEF (9th grade) mock exams were held on February 25 and 26. The Bac Blanc (grade 12) mock exams were held from February 25 to March 2.

 **SECURITE ALIMENTAIRE**

- A food security survey was carried out by the WFP in the village of Markazi, with the aim of determining the course of action to be taken in 2024 in terms of food assistance.

 **LIVELIHOODS**

- UNHCR has prepared a map of development actors and multilateral donors operating in the Republic of Djibouti. The World Bank, ADB, JICA and USAID, among others, are funding various projects with a total of \$1.6 billion.
- To strengthen the financial inclusion of refugees, a working session was held during the period with the World Bank for Trade and Industry - Red Sea (BCIMR) and the Caisse Populaire d'Épargne et de Crédit (CPEC).
- Djibouti's five-year action plan for livelihoods and economic inclusion is being finalized.
- UNHCR organized a consultation and exchange session with urban refugees. This session focused on entrepreneurship, patent payment and the spirit of empowerment. UNHCR also lobbied its partner [ADDs] for the formalization of 26 IGAs (Income Generating Activities) to enable refugees to pay their taxes in the same way as nationals.

 **WATER AND SANITATION**

- Maintenance work was carried out on the water network in the refugee village of Ali-Addeh, and 3 water shut-off valves were replaced. This activity was a success, thanks to the active participation of the village's refugee community.
- An assessment of the condition of family latrines in the refugee villages of Ali-Addeh and Holl-Holl revealed that a significant number of latrines are out of service (full and/or damaged), including 409 in Ali-Addeh and 106 in Holl-Holl. This finding is a major concern and challenge as there are fewer family latrines than needed. Rapid intervention solutions are being explored. In the meantime, a list of the most vulnerable families has been compiled to prioritize solutions for this group of people.

We thank our donors for their contributions

UNHCR Djibouti is grateful for the essential and generous support of donors who have contributed to UNHCR programs through earmarked, low earmarked and unearmarked funds.

CONTRIBUTIONS³ | USD

| | Unearmarked | Softly earmarked | Earmarked | Tightly earmarked | Total |
|--|----------------|------------------|----------------|-------------------|------------------|
| Intergovernmental Authority on Development | - | - | 31,485 | - | 31,485 |
| Sub-total | - | - | 31,485 | - | 31,485 |
| Indicative allocation of funds and adjustments | 995,094 | 217,512 | 902,786 | 524 | 2,115,916 |
| Total | 995,094 | 217,512 | 934,271 | 524 | 2,147,401 |

Methodology: Unearmarked funding is allocated and reallocated multiple times during the year to allow UNHCR to fund prioritised activities. This funding update includes an indicative allocation of funds so as to accurately represent the resources available for the country. The contributions earmarked for Djibouti shown above are combined with an indicative allocation of the softly earmarked and unearmarked contributions listed below. This allocation respects different levels of earmarking. Adjustments relate to programme support costs and carry-over.

Other restricted contributions : United States: 8.6 million | Norway: 2.8 million

Unrestricted contributions: Sweden \$90.6 million | Norway \$58.9 million | Netherlands \$36.3 million | Denmark \$35.6 million | United Kingdom & Northern Ireland \$28.5 million | Switzerland \$19.2 million | Republic of Korea \$17.9 million

Algeria | Angola | Armenia | Costa Rica | Estonia | Finland | Luxembourg | Malta | Mexico | Monaco | Montenegro | New Zealand | Philippines | Saudi Arabia | Serbia | Singapore | Thailand | Turkey | Private donors

For more information on UNHCR's work in Djibouti, please visit [Global Focus](#) and the UNHCR Djibouti page on Twitter and/or contact Deka Hassan Nour, Reporting Associate:
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