




 DÉCENNIE  
D'ACTION

  
NATIONS UNIES  
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Initiatives  
pour l'emploi  
Djibouti 2021  
TASLIM ABU ISMAËL  
N°INSEE: 000015816  
CIN: 156525  
SITE: DJIBOUTI 2  
JOUR 1  
17/02/2021  
07:00 à 12:00

# DJIBOUTI AT A GLANCE



POPULATION  
**980,000**  
(2020)



SURFACE  
**23,000** KM<sup>2</sup>

HDI RANK  
**166/189**



**52.9** ANS  
LIFE EXPECTANCY



**58/1000**  
INFANT MORTALITY  
(2012)



**383/100,000**  
MATERNAL MORTALITY  
(2012)

GDP /INHABITANT  
**\$3,210** (2021)



**2013-2017**  
People living below the  
national poverty threshold  
diminished from

**40% to 35.8%**

**78.4%**  
Rural population in  
in poverty  
(2013-2018)



Increased unemployment rate  
(2015-2017)

**39.4% to 47%**

**63%**  
Women unemployment (2017)

**65.7%**  
75.5% among women  
Youth unemployment 15-35  
(2017)

GINI INDICE  
**41,6** (2017)



de **44 à 47**  
Health service coverage index  
has improved (2015-2017)

from **367 to 260/100,000**  
Improved TB incidence  
2015-2018

from **13 to 35/10,000**  
increased malaria incidence  
2015-2018



**83%**  
Children immunized  
against measles



**70% AND 21%**  
Girls and women victims of FGM,  
and among girls 0-10 years (2019)



**2.4% AND 5.2%**  
Severe and global malnutrition  
rates



**14.5%**  
Moderate to severe food  
insecurity (2014)



**42.5%**  
Access to internet (2019)



**74%**  
Access to  
electricity (2020)



**90%**  
Population with  
access to safe water



**51.7%**  
Households with hand washing  
with soap and water



**87.2%**  
Access to sanitation  
(improved toilets 13.9%)



**60%**  
of which 52.9%  
women  
Adult literacy (2020)

from **79.5% to 89.6%**  
Improving primary school  
enrolment (2015-2020)

**72.9%**  
Primary school completion rate  
(2020)



# DJIBOUTI'S MAIN DEVELOPMENT TRENDS

The pandemic has made more visible the 'double speed' of Djibouti's economy; existing inequalities; and the need to strengthen disaster preparedness. However, it should be noted that, for the first time, Djibouti has been officially met the criteria for middle-income status in 2020. The new development plan called Djibouti ICI takes these realities into account and is anchored on the principles of the 2030 Agenda.



## Macroeconomic overview

Economic growth prospects have been affected by COVID-19, although the recession has been more limited than initially envisaged. Growth fell from an average of 7% of GDP per year in 2019 to -1% in 2020. Djibouti is expected to return to strong growth (5%, MFI 2021 projection) from 2021. Economic growth prospects, and the level of debt, could be adversely affected by a continuation of the pandemic during 2021, or by a resurgence of politico-military unrest in the region.



## Politics and institutions

The complexity of the policy landscape and the multiplicity of actors presuppose a major effort to ensure the coordination of interventions, which are often covered by the mandates of several institutions. Streamlining the interfaces would increase efficiency and better serve the population.

Strengthening of governance, of the accountability system, of coordination and public management, underpinned by human rights principles, would contribute to increasing transparency and civic participation. Systematic engagement of the whole of the society could accelerate the achievement of the SDGs in Djibouti, as reflected in the government's long-term plans and visions. Promoting social cohesion and preventing conflict must remain a key priority.



## Environment and climate change

For more than two decades, Djibouti has been affected by consecutive droughts alternating with floods and cyclones, and by locust invasions, due to the effects of global climate change. These events have revealed the limitations of existing responses to natural disasters.



## Human development

Djibouti's 2019 Human Development Index (0.524) is higher than the average of 0.513 for countries in the low human development group and lower than that of Arab countries (0.705). The first Multidimensional Poverty Index launched in 2020, based on 2017 data, showed that poverty is four times higher in rural areas than in urban areas, and is expressed more through lack of access to sanitation, employment and education. The classification of the population as 'multidimensionally poor' decreased between 2012 (47%) and 2017 (34%), declined in urban areas (from 39.9% to 26.9%) and remained stagnant in rural areas (56.5% to 55.8%). Female-headed households are more affected (39.59%) than male-headed households (32%).

Despite the efforts undertaken, major concerns persist regarding the problem of unemployment, particularly among young people. Another major concern is access to social

services, especially in peri-urban areas and in the regions. The essential precondition for the education and training of a young generation of entrepreneurs is the transformation of the education system, as well as the creation of favorable conditions for the development of a stronger and more resilient private sector. The same applies to the plans for restructuring health and energy independence.

Digitalization is an important priority of the government's plan. Djibouti is the landing site for eight intercontinental cables, which should allow for the development of computer and communication services, including in the regions. Rapid and quality training, especially of the younger generation, would be fundamental, as would the development of financial and fiscal policies, regulations and incentives.



## Regional dynamics régionales

Djibouti remains a pole of stability in the region, which has seen persistent tensions and conflicts. Instability persists in Ethiopia, which accounts for 90% of maritime traffic through Djibouti, and in Somalia, where political strife is a concern. The economic, social and security situation in these two countries, as well as the war in Yemen, are at the origin of major population movements (112,000 migrants in 2020).



## The new National Development Plan

The pandemic has slowed down the finalization of the new NDP, "Djibouti ICI", which focuses on inclusion, connectivity and institutions, and whose development is supported by the United Nations and takes into account the socio-economic impact of COVID-19. The need to invest in the SDGs, in the green, blue and circular economy, in strengthening social protection and in creating new and more appropriate financial instruments is also integrated in this plan, to accelerate progress towards the 2030 agenda.



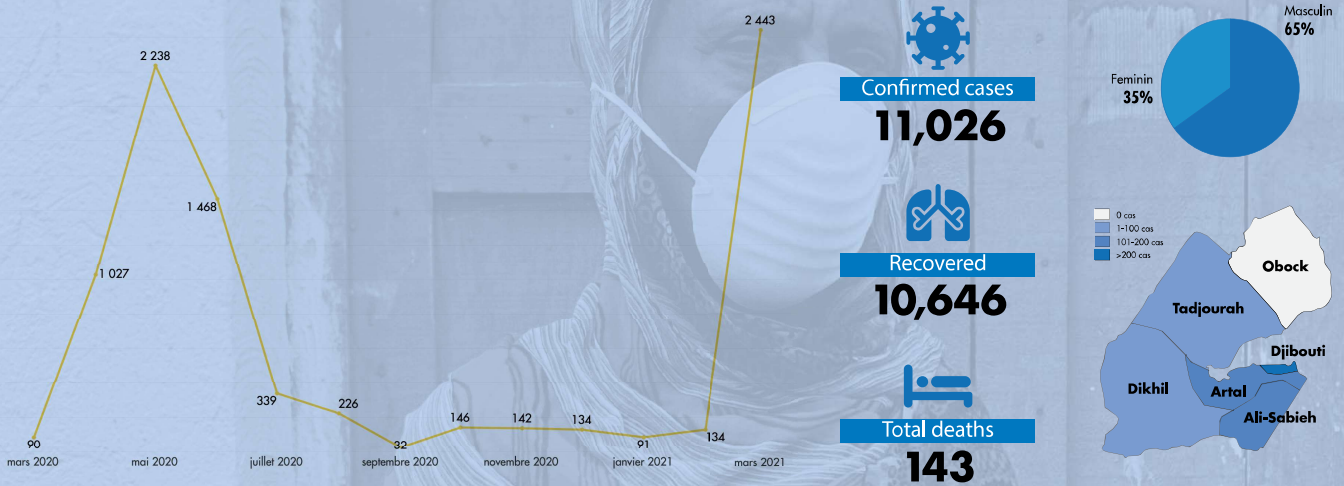
## Agenda 2030 and the SDGs

Djibouti is committed to the 2030 Agenda as part of the realization of the country's Vision 2035. Yet, despite the existence of a law that assigns to a ministerial department the mission of monitoring the implementation of Vision 2035 and its operational plans (NDP), there is, to date, no specific body responsible for coordinating efforts to achieve the SDGs. At the statistical level, the coordination bodies created have not really started to function and the National Statistical System suffers from a lack of appropriate human resources. The study on the identification of available SDG indicators in Djibouti has made it possible to prioritize certain targets for monitoring the SDGs in Djibouti. In addition, the link with the new NDP reveals a strong alignment with the themes and flagship programmes of the strategic plan.

# KEY TRENDS - THE COVID-19 PANDEMIC IN DJIBOUTI

The COVID-19 pandemic is having a serious impact on the lives of the people of Djibouti and on the country's progress towards achieving the 2030 Agenda and the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs). It has triggered emergency needs, particularly in the health sector but also in all other social and economic areas, especially among the most vulnerable. In the context of the COVID-19 pandemic, the UN Socio-Economic Response Plan (SERP) supports the national mitigation strategy implemented by the government through the National Solidarity Pact. Estimated at USD 40.9 million, the response plan has mobilized USD 21.2 million, 68% of which has been effectively implemented.

## Health situation: Evolution of the pandemic (March 2020 - March 2021)



## Economic impact of the pandemic



**10,500**  
JOBS

lost due to the pandemic (SEIA, 2020)

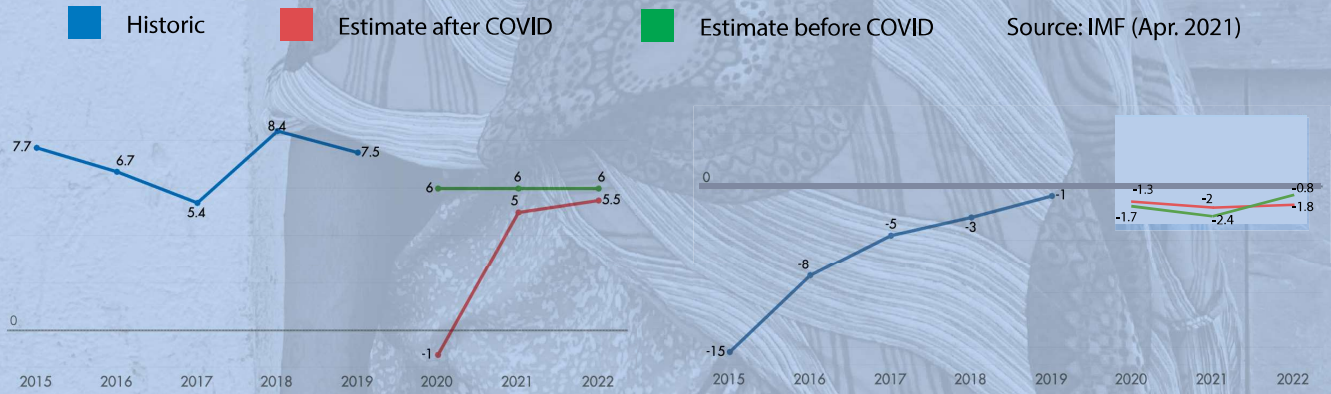


**+17%**  
FAMILIES

stopped working in the last quarter of the year (WB, Nov.2020)

concerned with food insecurity (WB, Nov.2020)

with access to food problems (WB, Nov.2020)



## Djibouti real GDP growth

History, estimates and forecasts

## Government fiscal balance (% of GDP)





# SOCIO-ECONOMIC RESPONSE TO THE COVID-19

## Pillar 1 HEALTH FIRST



450,000  
people reached

14,000 COVID-19 test kits, 25,000 PPE kits, 50 oxygen concentrators, 3 ambulances delivered

4 PCR machines, 20,000 rapid tests delivered  
37,789 people engaged through the RCCE plan

8,000 people received sprays and disinfectants  
Development of an online data management platform to share daily reports between managers

11,000 people followed the Telethon and Hackathon on social networks with prevention messages at COVID-19.

Mini catch-up vaccination campaign for multi-antigen children. 74 health facilities received training and immunisation materials

8,254 children (6-59 months) benefited from

nutrition programmes

511 maternal and child health workers supported for continuity of care, through the receipt of equipment and training

Six health facilities rehabilitated in Djibouti and in the regions

Support to the DSME to improve the organisation of care in three front-line facilities

1,359 community health workers connected to GBV prevention and response services

Studies on the impact of COVID-19 on reproductive health, migration on public health; quality assessment of water, sanitation and hygiene services in health facilities

## Pillar 2 PROTECT PEOPLE



540,000  
people reached

69,391 people benefited from food, nutrition and psychosocial support programmes

540,946 people (including 29,576 refugees and 600 migrants/month) received WASH supplies and services

14 hygiene promoters trained in refugee villages

350 handwashing stations equipped with soap installed

5,000 migrants benefited from EHA services at the government quarantine site

91 border officers (28 women) trained in COVID-19 prevention at the border

15 water tanks installed along the migration route; 220 emergency shelters for migrants provided

70 adolescents trained in COVID-19 response for the benefit of their communities

94,752 children benefited from distance or home-based education

8,292 children benefited from school canteens

Evaluation of GBV services in the context of COVID-19

Strengthening the community-based protection system against GBV

Gender analysis to adapt social protection systems to the pandemic

Carrying out awareness campaigns on sexual and gender-based violence

42 refugee groups trained to protect women and girls from GBV

## Pillar 3 RESPONSE & ECONOMIC RECOVERY

Survey of 5,000 households, survey of 9,000 SMEs to understand the effects of the pandemic on social strata

Qualitative survey on the impact of COVID-19 on refugee and asylum seeker households

Co-leading the Government Task Force for Socio-Economic Recovery

Support to the elaboration of the 'National

Solidarity Pact', Socio-Economic Impact Assessment; and integration of socio-economic recovery elements in the National Development Plan

Strengthening the coordination of vaccine logistics planning, installation of a cold room at the airport

## Pillar 4 RÉPONSE MACRO ÉCONOMIQUE & COOPERATION MULTILATÉRALE

Assessment of the macroeconomic impact of COVID-19, with a focus on employment and the informal sector in order to identify short- and medium-term investments to mitigate impact, improve resilience and develop appropriate public policies

Assessment of the impact of COVID-19 on

food security and nutrition in urban areas

Plan for recovery and acceleration of the SDGs

Assessment of the socio-economic impact of COVID on migrants, their livelihoods, vulnerabilities and access to basic services.

## Pillar 5 SOCIAL COHESION & COMMUNITY RESILIENCE



15,000  
people reached

170 members of 34 community management committees trained in COVID-19 key messaging, conducted door-to-door visits to 2,500 households

Supported 11 community-based

organisations and the National Human Rights Commission to disseminate messages on COVID-19 prevention measures, non-discrimination and non-stigmatisation

# SUPPORT TO NATIONAL DEVELOPMENT PRIORITIES

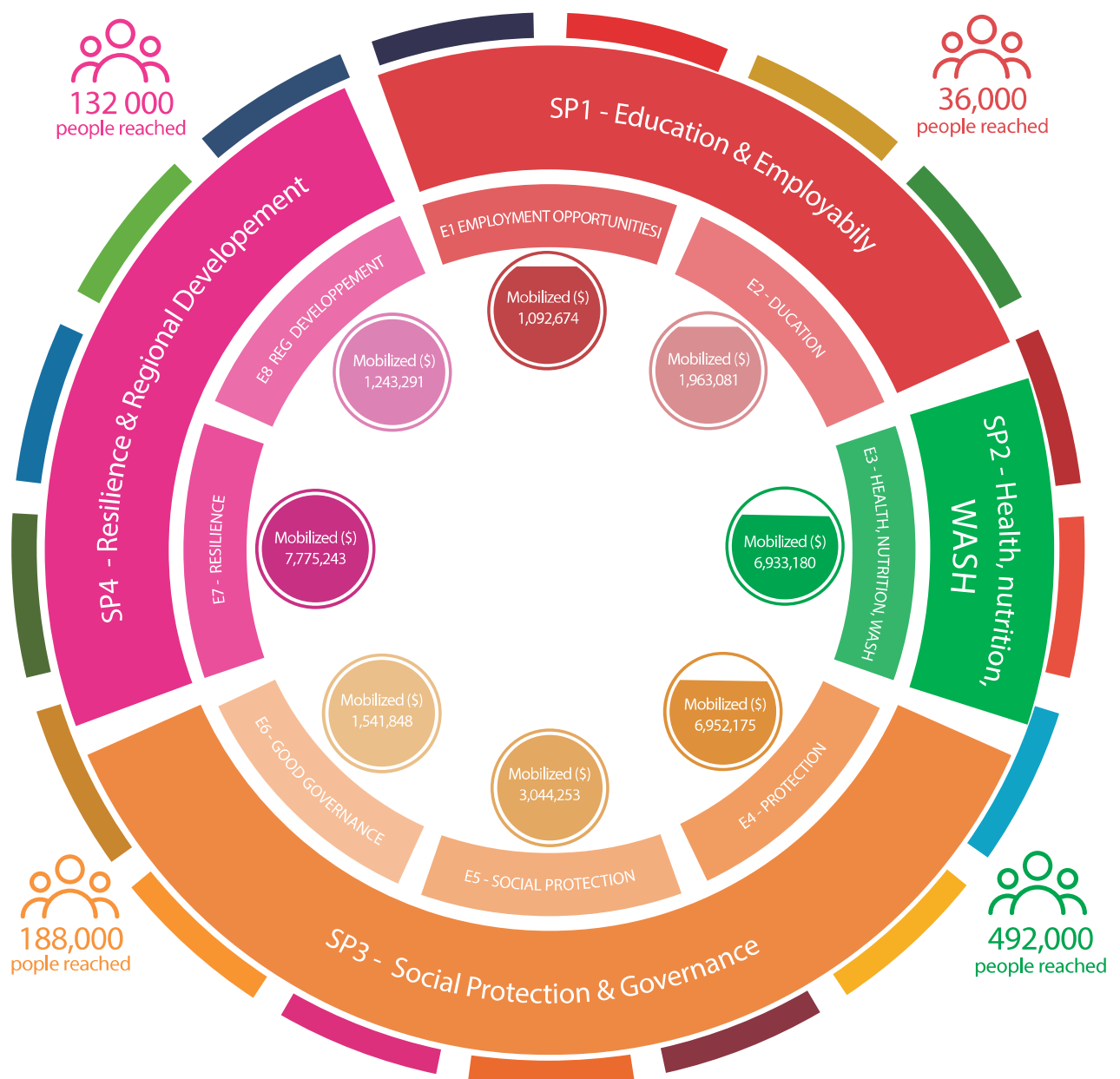
The UN Country Team (UNCT) has worked closely with the Government of Djibouti on the COVID-19 response as well as on the development of the new National Development Plan. In 2020, in the spirit of UN reform, the UNCT in Djibouti developed several approaches to stimulate effective joint results in the pursuit of the SDGs, the implementation of which was largely hampered by the necessary focus on managing the COVID-19 crisis.

The work of the UNCT is rooted in a strong institution and a commitment to national ownership. Key partners include government, independent institutions and local governments, development partners, national and international NGOs, civil society organisations - particularly those led by youth and women, and the private sector.

The implementation of the 2018-2022 UNDAF has been challenged by the new imperatives imposed by the COVID-19 pandemic. Nevertheless, the UN Country Team

has endeavoured to support national institutions in the four strategic priorities: 1- Education and Employability, 2- Health, Nutrition, Water, Hygiene and Sanitation, 3- Social Protection and Governance, and 4- Resilience & Regional Development.

Thus, a total of almost 850,000 people were reached in 2020 by the activities and programmes carried out. Of the USD 30.5 million mobilised for the UNDAF in 2020, 79% was used during the period.



# MAIN ACHIEVEMENTS

## STRATEGIC PRIORITY 1

### Education & Employability



36,200  
people reached



60  
refugee women trained



32  
women trained on peace keeping



84  
women received financial support



2,200  
women targeted with alphabetization



1,184  
women in empowerment programs



90  
youth scholarships



104  
youth sensitized around SDGs



Employability action plan formulated

job registry created



21  
school gardens implemented

CVC program

21,860

adolescents out of school

## STRATEGIC PRIORITY 2

### Health, Nutrition, WASH



491,831  
people reached

Multisectoral operational Plan Budgetized

5-year National Health Plan updated and launched



25,455 refugees with access to clean water



550 health personnel trained on malnutrition treatment

15,276 people targeted by malnutrition programs

72 malnutrition management structures supported



17,486 children under 5 with pneumonia treated

120,853 children 0-59 months vaccinated against polio

321,483 children 6 months-15 years vaccinated against measles



25 midwives trained on exclusive breastfeeding awareness

300 agents trained on screening malnourished children in remote areas

13,335 medically assisted deliveries



94% HIV-positive pregnant women received ARVs

100% of newborns of HIV-positive mothers received ARVs

7,726 young people informed about sexual and reproductive health

## STRATEGIC PRIORITY 3

### Social Protection & Governance



188,200  
people reached

Development of manuals for the identification and referral of victims of trafficking



33,351 refugees received food assistance



186 cases of GBV (172 women) identified and treated

3,678 GBV providers trained



537 migrants targeted for assisted voluntary return

3,300 migrants supported in the Orientation and Assistance Centre in Obock

Over 5,000 migrants have passed through the Ar-Aoussa emergency site

MGF



54,467 people sensitised on the abandonment of FGM through 780 community dialogues

764 girls rescued from FGM

3,662 unaccompanied and separated children assisted with psychosocial support, placement and family reunification



25 social workers trained on professional ethics in social work



16,000 refugee children and host communities were provided with a child-friendly space

## STRATEGIC PRIORITY 4

### Resilience & Regional Development



131,632  
personnes atteintes



48,240  
people have had access to water in rural areas



9,000  
people have benefited from technical and professional training



12,570  
people involved in food for agriculture projects



Improved food security for 12,570 people

# THE UNITED NATIONS COUNTRY TEAM (UNCT) IN DJIBOUTI

Some 20 agencies, funds and programmes make up the UN Country Team (UNCT) in Djibouti. Of these, 11 have a physical presence in the country and nine others are based in different locations, either in the Africa or Middle East region. Other UN entities are also present in the country with programmes of a regional nature or in support of the Yemen operation. The UN Country Team is chaired by the UN Resident Coordinator, the designated representative of the UN Secretary-General for development operations in Djibouti.

## The UNCT



The UN family in Djibouti is working collectively to support the government's priorities for achieving the 2030 Agenda and the Sustainable Development Goals. The team is also deeply engaged in the humanitarian response in the country, and continues to provide support from Djibouti to humanitarian operations in the region, including Yemen.

In line with the spirit of the UN Development System Reform (UNDS), an effort has been made to ensure that, regardless of where they are based, all UN entities operating in Djibouti become part of a "team", in order to maximize synergies and provide the best possible expertise available within the UN. This dynamic reinforces the UN's convening role and has demonstrated the importance of multilateralism as a strategic entry point for all stakeholders engaged in sustainable development in Djibouti.

The United Nations Development Assistance Framework (UNDAF - 2018-2022) provides the overall framework for UN cooperation in the country and focuses on addressing the needs of the most vulnerable, with the aim of ensuring that no one is left behind. The UNCT agreed on the structuring of the Common Country Analysis (CCA) process which was launched in early 2021. Reflection was initiated on the methodology for aligning the UNDAF with the new UN development planning instrument, the UNSDCF, in order to better identify the UN's contribution to the types of transformational change needed and achievable in the country. The establishment of the UN Migration Network and the analysis of refugee issues in the context of the CRRF have helped identifying key needs for the achievement of the SDGs related to 'people on the move' issues.

In 2020, while the COVID-19 Response Plan was rapidly implemented, most UN agencies experienced delays in implementing the 'regular' programmes. Collecting data needed for assessments, response and planning has also been a challenge. Considerable delays were experienced due to containment measures, limited government availability to provide data

and untimely coordination. The deployment by the UN Country Team of the expertise - internal and external - needed for support processes was also limited due to COVID.

The joint work around the government-led COVID-19 response plan, the socio-economic impact assessment, the national development plan and the COVID national immunization plan represent major examples of inter-agency collaboration in support of national priorities.

The country team has begun the development of the Business Operating Strategy - BOS 2.0 (2021 - 2024), the first of its generation in Djibouti, through a consultative process among agencies, with the ultimate aim of supporting effective implementation, monitoring and evaluation of programmes and reporting on joint operations.

The UN Monitoring and Evaluation Group continued to mobilize in support of the emergency response to COVID-19 as a priority. The group collected the necessary data and information with tools developed in this context to reflect the financial needs and contributions of the response, the areas of intervention and thus support the government in developing the response plan. The group's efforts have also included the launch of the UNINFO digital platform. The UNCT also initiated an important process in 2020 to support a national monitoring and evaluation mechanism. This commitment should not only provide the NDP with a rigorous monitoring framework, but also institutionalize these processes within the different departments of the public administration.

The joint activities of the communications team in 2020 revolved around multiple engagements mainly related to the response to COVID-19, the 75th anniversary of the United Nations (UN75) and the Volunteer Day celebrations.

## Other UN-related entities





# FINANCIAL OVERVIEW AND RESOURCE MOBILISATION

In 2020, the UN was able to collectively mobilize a total of USD 51.9 million for both UNDAF-related development programming and COVID-19 and humanitarian interventions, compared to USD 58.1 million in 2019. Most of the funds (60%) were raised through resources made available by bilateral and multilateral donors, as well as through UN regular resources (30%) and 'vertical funds' (10%).

Some USD 11.7 million was reallocated from development interventions to the COVID response, in line with changing priorities.

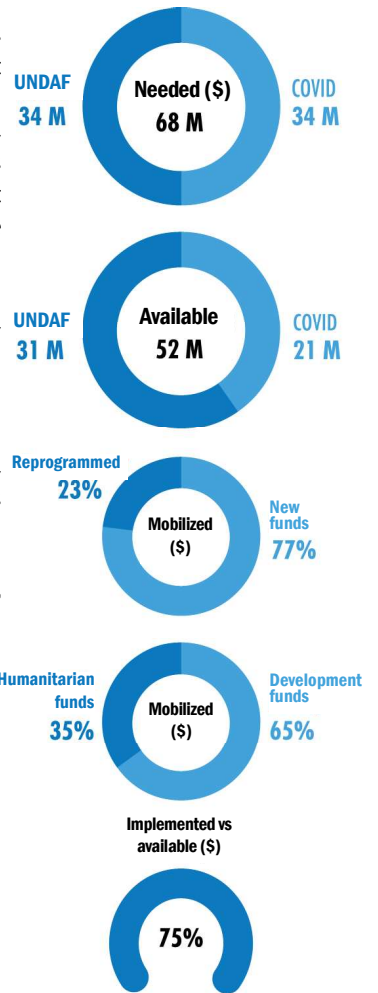
Project-based interventions remained the most dominant form of funding for programmatic activities, implemented by individual UN agencies or jointly. The UNCT has favoured a joint resource mobilisation approach targeting thematic funds at the global level and has developed joint proposals. These exercises represent a major shift in the UNCT's effort to engage collectively on priorities and move from project and agency-based engagement to a more priority-based approach for the achievement of the 2030 agenda and the SDGs.



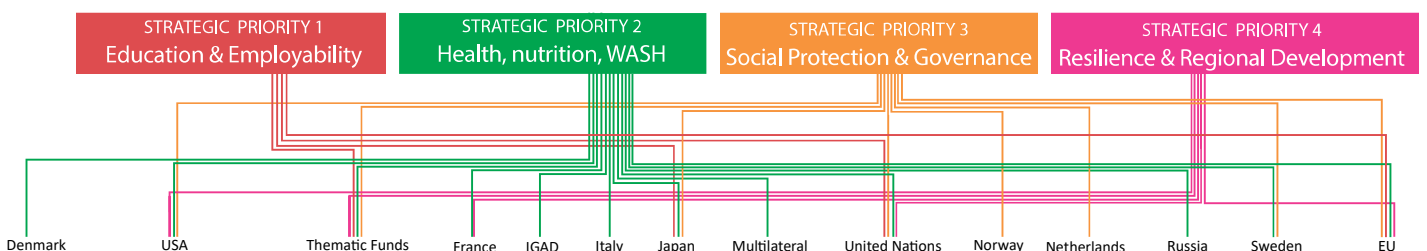
In order to accelerate the formulation of the SDG-sensitive NDP, the UNCT has supported the government in integrating

the 2030 agenda into the national plan and in establishing effective budgeting systems for the acceleration of the SDGs. The joint Country Team programme funded through the SDG Trust Fund will help Djibouti establish, develop and maintain new financing systems and mechanisms. It will be able to attract national and international investors for the achievement of the NDP through an integrated national financing framework estimation exercise, focusing on social sector spending, including the contributory social protection sector, to cover the full cost of the national social protection floor.

In terms of innovative financing mechanisms, the UNCT has mobilised financial resources from the Islamic Development Bank (IDB) to leverage financing for the SDGs through investment in macro-finance for local micro and small enterprises.



Mobilized funds by SDG in 2020





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