

## Country Profile on Nutrition

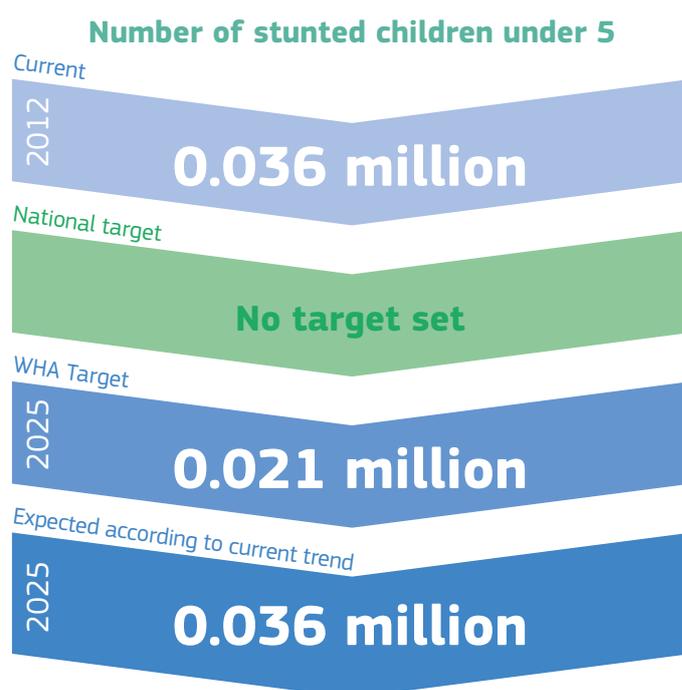
# Djibouti

The European Commission (EC) is continuing to work strategically to secure traction on its commitments to reduce stunting and to allocate EUR 3.5 billion (2014–20) for this purpose<sup>1</sup>. Preliminary results for 2016 indicate a three-fold increase in the EC's commitments to nutrition since 2014. This is a significant development, but this pace of investment needs to be maintained in order to reach the pledge by 2020. The scope to achieve this lies in the strategic design of programmes that are still to be funded – especially in the focal sectors of Food & Nutrition Security, Sustainable Agriculture, Health and Education – so that nutrition is integrated alongside other objectives. This approach is particularly relevant to the new EU Consensus on Development which places emphasis on human development and dignity as well as partnership, prosperity, peace and the planet itself.

Considerable strain on natural resources, eroded livelihoods and recurrent disasters, all contribute to a deteriorating nutrition situation in Djibouti. The prevalence of global acute malnutrition increased from 10 per cent in 2010 to an alarming 17.8 per cent in 2013. Discrepancies exist across regions with for instance 46% for the global form of wasting in Obock. The prevalence of severe acute malnutrition (SAM) is 5.7 per cent. Stunting among children under five is above 40 per cent in the Dikhil, Obock and Tadjoura regions. Stunting is about 29.7% in its global form and about 10.7% in its severe form. It is projected to increase (SMART survey, Djibouti 2013)<sup>2</sup>.

Without concerted efforts to tackle undernutrition, the WHA/SDG target will not be met and undernutrition will, in turn,

continue to hinder both the human and economic development of the country. Under the 11th EDF, the EU is focusing its actions on two major determinants of undernutrition, poverty and humanitarian crises: 1) poor access to water (as a productive asset and for human consumption) & sanitation; and 2) food insecurity (including nutrition insecurity). This focus on human development (People), sustainable and equitable economic growth (Prosperity) and the management of natural resources in a context of climate change and eroded resilience (Planet) embodies the new European Consensus on Development.



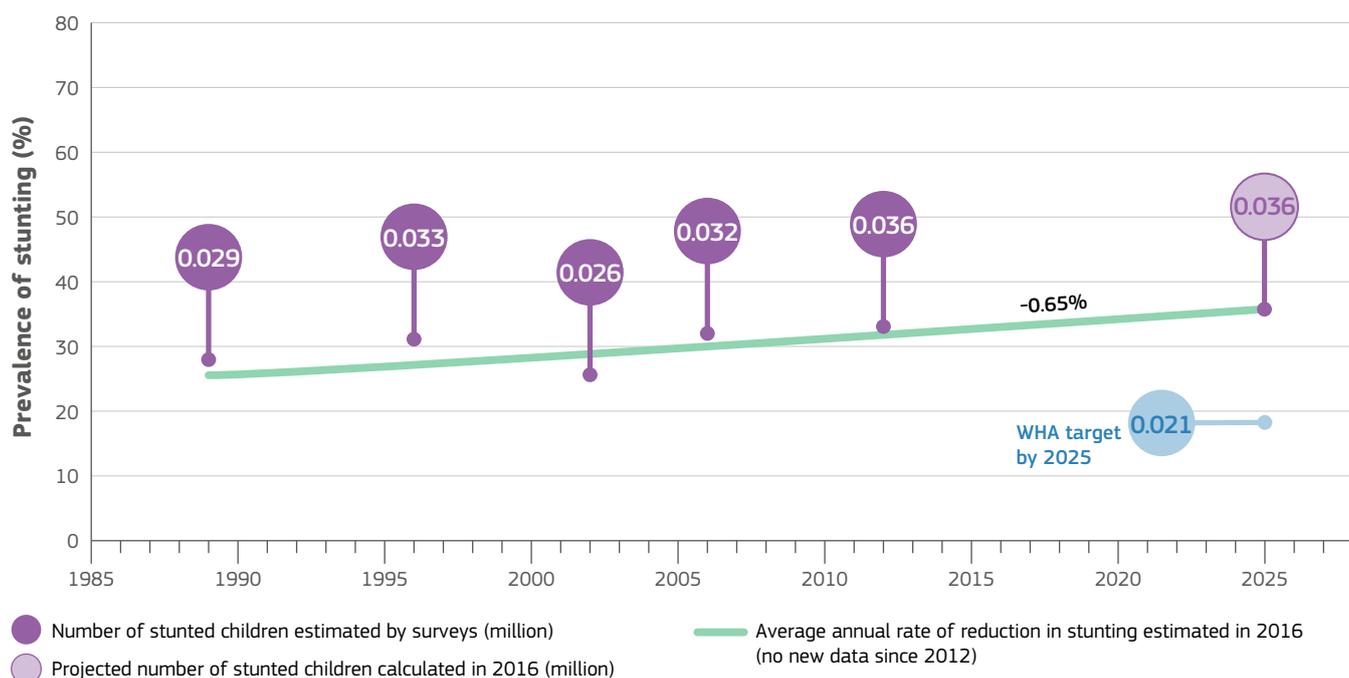
### Progress against the World Health Assembly targets<sup>3</sup>

GNR 2016 analysis of progress	WHA (and SDG) nutrition indicators
Off course – No progress	Stunting of children U5 years of age (SDG2)
Off course	Wasting of children U5 years of age (SDG2)
Off course – Some progress	Overweight of children U5 years of age
Currently off course	Anaemia of women of reproductive age
NA	Low birth weight
NA	Exclusive breastfeeding of infants U6 months

### Data last referenced by EU

Prevalence	Number	Year
33.5%	36 075	2012 <sup>4</sup>
21.5%	23 152	2012 <sup>4</sup>
8.1%	8 723	2012 <sup>4</sup>
27.1%	124 367	2011 <sup>5</sup>
10.0%	–	2006 <sup>5</sup>
1.3%	–	2006 <sup>5</sup>

### Trend, projection and targets in the prevalence and number of children (under-five) stunted



### Implications for development planners

Both the number of children affected by, and the prevalence of stunting are increasing in Djibouti. Recent projections anticipate that the country will not meet the World Health Assembly (WHA) target by 2025 as 36,000 children are still expected to be stunted in 2025. This is well over the WHA target, and by extension, that of the principal indicator for Sustainable Development Goal 2 (SDG 2). Consequently, additional efforts are required by the Government and development partners to change Djibouti’s course and secure the level of stunting reduction needed.

### Nutrition governance

	Yes/No	Comment
Member of SUN Movement	No	Advocacy efforts are ongoing by UNICEF and other development partners for the government to adhere to the SUN.
Government’s commitment to nutrition (including N4G event)	No	The objective of the 2006 strategy was to reduce malnutrition amongst children under five years of age by 50%. The Government has yet to define a new commitment for nutrition.
Multi-sectoral policy framework nutrition	No	The Nutrition Strategy was developed in 2006 It needs to be updated to comply with latest development. There is a National Nutrition Programme, managed by the Ministry of Health.
Multi-sectoral platform for nutrition coordination	No	The Ministry of Health is in charge of coordination in nutrition. However, there is no multi-sector coordination. Advocacy efforts are ongoing to facilitate the establishment of such a platform.

## EU financial commitments to nutrition 2008–2016

Data collected March 2017

The EU commitments to nutrition in Djibouti through DEVCO from 2008 to 2016 are illustrated below in Figure 1. Under the 11<sup>th</sup> EDF National Indicative Programme (NIP) 2014–2020 for Djibouti nutrition is prioritised through the Food and Nutrition Security and Sustainable Agriculture (FNSSA) focal sector to which EUR 35 million have been allocated. By the end of 2016, no funding was committed yet and a total of EUR 27 million is identified for an upcoming programme which will support rural population’s resilience in the country.

Preliminary results for 2016 indicate a 3-fold increase in the EU’s global funding commitments to nutrition since 2014 as illustrated in Figure 2. The total amount of funding commitments for nutrition globally in the last three years is EUR 1.8 billion, which represents 51 % of the EU overall financial commitment for the period 2014–2020. In 2016 alone, the EU’s financial commitments to nutrition have reached EUR 790 million. This is a significant development, but this pace of investment needs to be maintained in order to reach the EUR 3.5 billion target by 2020.

### Progress against the EU’s financial pledge to reduce stunting 2014–2020:

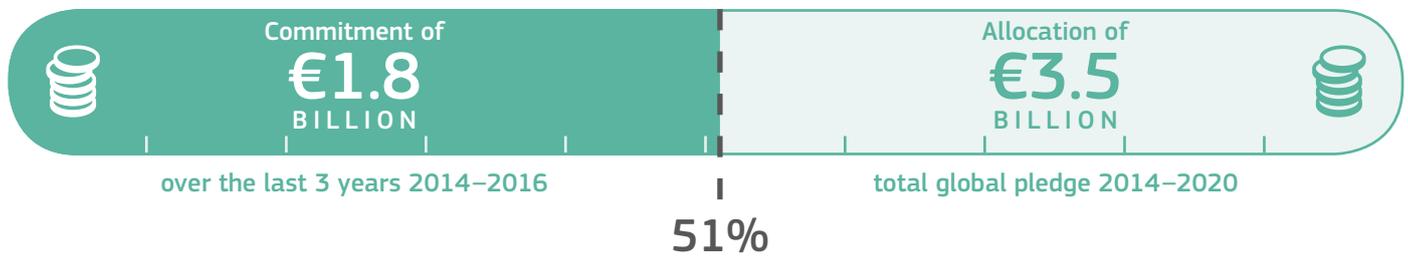


Figure 1

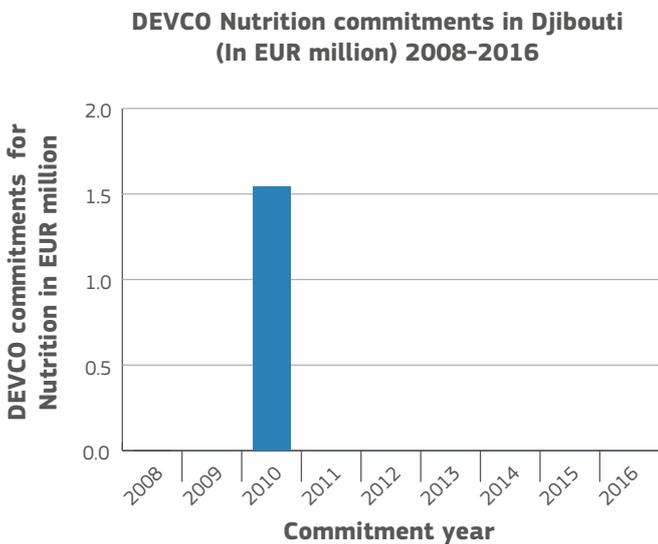
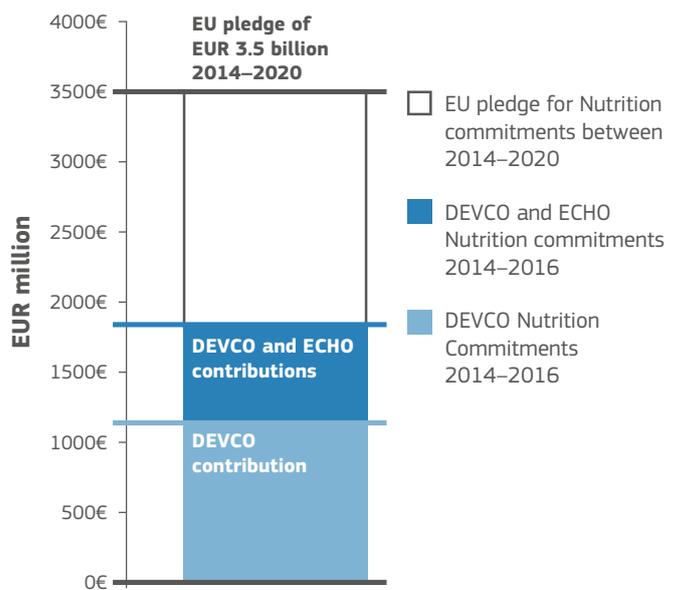


Figure 2

DEVCO and ECHO global commitments 2014–2016 to the EU pledge of EUR 3.5 billion to nutrition 2014–2020



## Support of the EU and Member States

### NIP Focal sector(s) for nutrition 2014–2020

- Food Security

## Enhance mobilisation and political commitment for nutrition

- ✓ Mobilisation of local level actors (e.g. associations, women's groups, local authorities) for nutrition.

## Scaling-up actions

Through its 'support to resilience' project for rural populations, the EU will contribute to scaling up:

- ✓ Nutrition-specific actions targeted at young children and pregnant/lactating women (e.g. micronutrient supplementation, deworming, treatment of severe acute malnutrition, promotion of good practices in health, nutrition and hygiene).
- ✓ Nutrition-sensitive actions (addressing underlying and basic causes of undernutrition), with a focus on women and vulnerable households, to diversify income sources and food consumption:
  - water-management for crop and animal production and for human consumption in a context of climate change and recurrent droughts.
  - management of agropastoralist areas through cooperatives/associations.
  - support to short-cycle animal husbandry (poultry, shoats, beekeeping).
  - training and sensitisation in agriculture and nutrition.

Ultimately, the above should contribute to improving living conditions, food and nutrition security for rural inhabitants.

## Strengthen expertise and knowledge-base

- ✓ Analysis of bottlenecks preventing the scale-up of nutrition-specific interventions, to determine ways to overcome these.
- ✓ SMART (Standardized, Monitoring and Assessment of Relief and Transitions) surveys.

1 The EU stunting reduction target is embodied in the EU's Communication on Enhancing Maternal and Child Nutrition and the Action Plan on Nutrition to operationalise that policy

2 This is the last survey available. However, the age group surveyed is 6–59 months i.e. excluding the 0–5 months. Therefore, this survey is not considered when measuring progress towards the WHA targets

3 [http://www.who.int/nutrition/topics/nutrition\\_globaltargets2025/en/](http://www.who.int/nutrition/topics/nutrition_globaltargets2025/en/)

4 Enquête djiboutienne à indicateurs multiples (EDIM): Rapport préliminaire. Djibouti: Ministère de la Santé et PAPPAM, 2013 (and additional analysis)

5 Global Nutrition Report (GNR)