

DJIBOUTI

Ecosystem-based Adaptation
2014-2021



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SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT GOALS



Supporting agriculture by rehabilitating 30 hectares of irrigated agro-pastoral plots and providing training for local communities on climate-resilient agriculture



Increasing water supplies for over 210 families by building 5 water distribution systems in 5 communities, including boreholes, irrigation systems and rainwater harvesting systems



Constructing a 1.8km dyke to protect 9,450 people - 64% of Tadjourah city's population - from climate-induced flooding



Protecting communities from flooding by mainstreaming adaptation into development plans, and updating Djibouti's climate projections to aid adaptation decision-making



Restoring 15 hectares of acacia trees in Dikhil and 3 hectares of mangroves forests in Tadjourah. Training in mangrove restoration is being provided to 30 local community members.

PROJECT TITLE:

IMPLEMENTING ADAPTATION TECHNOLOGIES
IN FRAGILE ECOSYSTEMS OF DJIBOUTI'S
CENTRAL PLAINS

EXECUTING ENTITY:



Ministry of Urbanism, Habitat and
Environment, Government of Djibouti

KEY TARGETS:

55

Hectares of land managed for climate-resilience

280

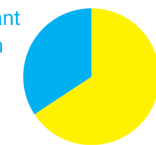
Agro-pastoralist families have more secured
livelihoods

1,500+

Households protected from flooding by a new
1.8km dyke

FUNDING:

GEF Grant
\$7.4m



Cofinance
\$14.2m

PROJECT PARTNERS:

Ministry of Agriculture, Livestock and Fisheries; National Water and Sanitation Office of Djibouti; Djibouti National Research Centre; National Meteorological Agency; Social Development Agency of Djibouti; Agropastoralism Association of Hanlé; Association of Women in Tadjourah

INTRODUCTION

- Djibouti is a small country on the Horn of Africa with a population of around 950,000.
- This project is increasing the resilience of the Djiboutian society and economy to the impacts of climate change, such as droughts, flash floods, desertification and sea-level rise.
- The main approaches of the project are to: build infrastructure to protect communities from flash floods and droughts; use Ecosystem-based Adaptation to protect crops from drought and wind erosion; train communities to adopt climate-resilient livelihoods; and improve institutional capacity for adaptation.
- The project is building on a previous UNEP-supported project in Djibouti that ran from 2010-2016 ([link](#)).

TECHNOLOGIES & METHODS

- **Ecosystem-based Adaptation (EbA)** is central to the project's activities. EbA is the strategy of protecting or restoring ecosystems to reduce the negative impacts of climate change on people.
- For instance, the project is **restoring mangrove forests** in Raysali, which fights coastal erosion by reducing the strength of the sea waves. Local communities have highlighted the positive impacts the new mangroves have had on their livelihoods, especially in terms of **increasing fish stocks and tourism** opportunities.
- 30 local community members are receiving **training in mangrove restoration** and maintenance.
- 15 hectares of Acacia trees are being planted along the **borders of agro-pastoral plots** in Dikhil region, **acting as windbreaks** to hold back wind and soil erosion.
- The project is building a **1.8km dyke** – a long

CLIMATE IMPACTS

- In Djibouti, climate change is leading to **erratic rainfall** where droughts and floods are both on the rise. The country is already suffering from **insufficient groundwater** levels, expected to worsen under future climate projections.
- Most of Djibouti's infrastructure and population (88%) is located in coastal areas, and is therefore at major risk from **sea level rise**.
- In Tadjourah and Dikhil, climate impacts, such as flooding from intense rain, are harming **infrastructure and agriculture**, perpetuating poverty and food insecurity.
- The vulnerabilities to climate impacts are worsened by the **unsustainable use of natural resources** and the degradation of ecosystems, such as mangrove forests, that have historically played a key role in the provision of food and water for local communities.

- wall or embankment that prevents flooding during intense rain. The dyke has already protected Tadjourah city's population and infrastructure from 3 major flood events in 2019.
- To ensure communities have water supplies in times of drought, the project is **constructing boreholes and underground water tanks** in 4 different communities, benefitting over 210 families.
- The project is rehabilitating 30 hectares of **irrigated agro-pastoral plots**, strengthening the livelihoods for at least 280 agro-pastoralist families.
- **Techniques for water-use efficiency** are being introduced, including the construction of **rainwater harvesting** and irrigation systems for the aforementioned agro-pastoral plots. Training was provided for local communities in agro-pastoralism and sustainable water management.

PROJECT LOCATION



The project is being implemented in 2 regions of Djibouti: Tadjourah Region and Dikhil Region. There are 8 communities involved in the project activities: Kalaf, Ad bouya, Sourat, Darkenle, Raysali, Koudi koma, Lylia bouri, and Dinamali.

- Local communities are being trained in other **climate-resilient livelihoods**, such as poultry farming, veterinary training, and the marketing of artisanal crafts. The objective is to **diversify revenue streams** to decrease the dependency of households on rain-fed agriculture.
- The project is training policymakers to **integrate adaptation into the policy framework**, enhancing the adaptive capacity of national stakeholders to respond to climate impacts. The project is also improving adaptation decision-making by updating Djibouti's **evidence base on climate change risks**.

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