



Djibouti

WASH - Sectoral and OR+ (Thematic) Report

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## Abbreviations and Acronyms

CPD	Country Programme Document
DHR	Directorate of Rural Hydraulics
EDAM 4	Enquête Djiboutienne auprès des Ménages (Household Survey)
M&E	Monitoring and Evaluation
NGO	Non-Governmental Organisation
PNAEPA	Programme national d’approvisionnement en eau potable et assainissement en milieu rural (National plan for water supply and sanitation in rural areas)
SMART	Standardized Monitoring and Assessment of Relief and Transitions
WASH	Water, Sanitation and Hygiene

## Executive Summary

Djibouti is a country located in the Horn of Africa at the edge of the Red Sea with climatic characteristics that are not very favorable including a high level of water stress with an average annual rainfall of 150 mm. Water supply conditions are very difficult throughout the country, particularly in rural areas. The main causes are: the semi-arid and hot climate of the country, the low rainfall on almost the whole territory, limited water resources and the low productivity of groundwater. Surface water is random, flowing only during floods and little or no development in terms of facilities built to mobilize or strategies put in place to valorize these resources. As a result, groundwater, which provides 95% of the water supply, is the main source of water supply in the country.

Furthermore, due to limited involvement of beneficiary communities in the management of water points, there are gaps in operation and maintenance of water points. One of the reasons for this is that until 2000 the Government itself operated and maintained water points, however, following the economic crisis in 1996, reductions in the national budget did not allow government to continue the effective management of all water points. Rural communities were not well prepared to ensure operations and maintenance and to address this issue UNICEF supported the government to establish a national strategy to institutionalize the community management of water points.

In rural areas the rate of access to drinking water remains low. According the current national strategy document for the WASH sector (PNEAPA 2015) less than 30% of rural population have access to improved drinking water points located at less than 1 km from their households. Furthermore, only about 20% of the population living rural areas reported having access to improved sanitation facilities as per the latest household survey in Djibouti (EDAM 4) conducted in 2017. In many parts of the country open defecation is a common practice and individuals' knowledge of good hygiene practices is critically low.

In line with the CPD priorities for the WASH sector, aiming to increase the number of people who have access to safe drinking water and to improved sanitation facilities / infrastructures, with a focus on the most vulnerable populations, particularly those living in remote areas, thematic funds have enabled UNICEF to provide support to deliver an integrated package of WASH services to 2,142 persons through the construction of water supply and sanitation facilities, accompanied by hygiene promotion activities. Furthermore, the areas targeted by the intervention under thematic funding in 2018 are located along routes used by migrants transiting through Djibouti who put additional pressure on the already fragile water and sanitation infrastructure.

The interventions implemented during the reporting period with the WASH thematic funds (construction of 1 solar powered water supply system and construction of 8 collective blocks of latrines) reached about 1,200 persons while hygiene promotion activities and distribution of hygiene kits have benefited around 2,300 persons in 340 rural households.

## Strategic Context of 2018

The WASH situation particularly in rural areas remains a concern for the government and its partners involved in the sector. The main challenge is linked to the low rate of access to drinking water and sanitation in rural areas where around of the population live. In Djibouti, the rate of access to drinking water and sanitation are 54% and 20%, respectively, in rural areas, according to the most recent household survey conducted in 2017 (EDAM 4). This low coverage of WASH services represents a

potential risk to child health given the link between the lack of access to improved WASH facilities and the prevalence of waterborne diseases and. In addition, poor knowledge of good hygiene practices, persistently high rates of open defecation and low rates of handwashing at key moment, increase the children's risk of contracting waterborne diseases. The alarming results of SMART survey on children nutrition 2013 indicate a prevalence of global acute malnutrition of 17.8 per cent in 2013. The rate 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 Tadjourah regions. It has been proved that the lack of good WASH conditions has a negative impact on nutrition, health and education outcomes for children.

Djibouti has achieved impressive economic growth rates in recent years, reaching 6.7% in 2017. At the same time, public debt has increased exponentially and was expected to reach 104% of GDP by the end of 2018 according to an IMF study. High debt repayment levels over the coming years may further reduce national budget allocations to social sectors, including the WASH sector.

Additionally, the country has recorded an unprecedented influx of migrants from neighbouring countries which puts additional pressure on already limited natural resources and social services. Progress towards the achievement of SDG 6 has been limited and the fragmented governance structure in the WASH sector poses a serious challenge for integrated planning, monitoring and coordination of WASH service delivery, frequently leading to duplication of efforts and inefficiencies in the use of resources. The limited capacity of government authorities responsible for sectoral governance remains a major bottleneck to making sustainable improvements to access to drinking water source and sanitation in rural areas. The scarcity of information and data on the sector hampers evidence-based and efficient allocation of resources and targeting of interventions towards the populations most in need.

In collaboration with the Directorate of Rural Hydraulics (DHR), its main implementing partner in the WASH sector, UNICEF undertakes regular joint field visits to identify the most vulnerable rural communities and assess their needs in terms of provision of improved WASH infrastructures. In 2018, thematic funding was used to provide support to remote communities or localities with regular outbreaks of acute watery diarrhoea (AWD). This prioritization exercise took a little more time than expected, delaying the start of construction activities on the ground and the procurement of the necessary equipment. Although all the expected infrastructures were completed by end of 2018, the procurement of equipment for the rehabilitation of water points still pending and will only be received during the first quarter of 2019. Based on lessons learned from last year, this year the program has anticipated the procurement of the equipment so as to launch the rehabilitation of water points through the replacement of deficient equipment as soon as possible.

## Results Achieved in the Sector

Over 2018, UNICEF worked closely with Government and partners to provide children with access to clean water, basic sanitation and to promote good hygiene practices which are essential for their survival and development. This section presents the progress achieved in 2018 for the WASH-related Country Programme Outcome and Output, defined as follows:

**Outcome 1:** By 2022, new-borns, children under five, adolescent girls, pregnant and lactating women use quality health, nutrition and WASH services, and families adopt healthy and hygienic practices, including in emergency situations

**Output 1.3:** By 2022, families and communities in targeted areas have improved their knowledge and abilities to adopt healthy and hygienic behaviours and practices to provide appropriate care for children under five, adolescents, women pregnant and lactating women.

**Output 1.5:** By 2022, safe, improved and affordable water and sanitation facilities are continuously accessible to children and their families living in areas at risk of food insecurity.

**Output 1.6:** By the end of 2022, national, regional and local authorities have improved their capacity to develop, implement and monitor pro-poor policies and strategies to contribute to sustainable and quality access to water, sanitation and sanitation. and the hygiene of rural and peri-urban populations.

***Progress towards output 1.3: By 2022, families and communities in targeted areas have improved their knowledge and abilities to adopt healthy and hygienic behaviours and practices to provide appropriate care for children under five, adolescents, women pregnant and lactating women.***

During 2018, UNICEF conducted continuous advocacy with the DHR for increased attention to hygiene promotion. With UNICEF's financial and technical support, this led to the introduction of participatory community-based approaches to promote the adoption of good hygiene practices through a pilot in three rural communities. UNICEF's ability to work on strengthening infrastructure as well as essential hygiene promotion is thus contributing to gradually heighten awareness among government partners of the importance of coupling hygiene promotion with provision of access to water and sanitation infrastructure, as well as the need to use participatory community-based approaches in doing so.

Furthermore, UNICEF supported the celebration of global hand-washing Day in partnership with Djibouti City Mayor's Office, together with the Ministry of Education. This was accompanied by a nationwide radio, text message, and print media communications campaign. The event was widely covered through social media. During the celebration more than 5,000 SMS were sent to mobile phone number holders with messages promoting good hygiene practices and an estimated 54,000 persons were directly reached through different communication channels (TV, radio, newspaper, interpersonal communication) with messaging on good hygiene practices to prevent of spreading of water borne diseases.

***Progress towards output 1.5: By 2022, safe, improved and affordable water and sanitation facilities are continuously accessible to children and their families living in areas at risk of food insecurity***

**Access to drinking water:** in 2018 UNICEF supported provision of safe drinking water totally to 7,242 people from vulnerable communities in rural areas including 3,882 internally displaced persons (IDPs). These communities gained access to a basic level of drinking water service as defined by the JMP standard (improved source within 30 minutes return trip). These results were achieved through the construction of solar powered water supply systems which contributed to improving access to basic services while also reinforcing the resilience of beneficiaries to the impact of climate change.

**Access to sanitation:** During 2018 UNICEF provided financial and technical support to institutional partners to implement pilot projects consisting of the construction of shared family latrines in semi-nomadic communities. In total 22 blocks of latrines were constructed in 2 vulnerable communities presenting around 1,780 persons.

As part of the response to the emergency situation caused by cyclone Sagar which hit Djibouti in May 2018, UNICEF contributed to provide access to sanitation to 1333 people in humanitarian situations through the rehabilitation their sanitation facilities.

***Progress towards output 1.6: By the end of 2022, national, regional and local authorities have improved their capacity to develop, implement and monitor pro-poor policies and strategies to contribute to sustainable and quality access to water, sanitation and hygiene. and the hygiene of rural and peri-urban populations.***

In order to strengthen sectoral planning, monitoring and evaluation, UNICEF supported the DHR to develop a national monitoring and evaluation system for WASH sector in rural areas with an electronic application to collect, analyse and share information with all actors involved in the sector. The availability of information in real time will contribute to strengthening coordination and improving targeting of interventions, ensuring that the most vulnerable populations are reached.

In the area of emergency response capacities improvement, WASH program contributed to strengthen institutional capacities through support provided to develop and establish a national contingency plan for the WASH sector.

The results outlined above contributed to making progress towards the CPD target to provide 21,817 people with safe drinking water and provide 10,557 people with access to improved sanitation facilities by 2022. Indeed, with these interventions UNICEF supported 7,242 persons to gain access to drinking water supply, representing about 33% of the CPD target. Sustainability will be ensured by equipping water supply systems with context-specific technology and strengthening local capacity to manage the water points. In applying the principle of Leave No One Behind, remote communities are prioritised, however, the country's needs in the country in terms of access to water and improved sanitation infrastructures are still significant.

**Results Assessment Module (RAM)**

As shown in table below, the results achieved are medium except in sensitization activities to good hygiene where a large number of persons were covered than initially targeted.

No.	Standard Output Indicators	Baseline		Target		Status/Value as of Dec 2018
		Year	Value	Year	Value	
1	Existence of water, sanitation and hygiene sector monitoring, evaluation and learning mechanism	2017	No	2022	Yes	Yes
2	Existence of a national plan with target to provide access to drinking water to unserved populations	2017	Yes	2022	Yes	No
3	National strategy to eliminate open defecation available with a systemic approach to gender	2017	Yes	2022	Yes	No
4	Existence of norms and standards for the design of hydraulic infrastructure and sanitation structures	2017	No	2022	Yes	no
5	Percentage of DHR staff who improved their knowledge on planning, monitoring and evaluation among targets	2017	ND	2022	90%	75
6	Number of people living in water safe communities in the reporting year only, as a result of UNICEF direct support	2017	27,240	2018	15,794	7,242
				2022	49,057	

7	Number of men and women, girls and boys, who gained access to basic sanitation services in the reporting year only, as a result of UNICEF direct support	2017	8970	2018	3302	2124
				2022	12724	
8	Number of schools with access to basic WASH service in the reporting year only, with UNICEF direct support	2017	0	2018	3	3
				2022	6	
9	Number of persons reached by community dialogues on Key Family Practices	2017	ND	2018	16000	54218
				2022	75000	

## Case study

### Top level Results

In 2018 UNICEF supported more than 7,280 persons in rural areas, including 3,338 internally displaced persons to have improved access to drinking water. In order to improve the wellbeing and living conditions of these populations, UNICEF was able to not only bring drinking water physically closer to beneficiary communities, but at the same time build their resilience to climate change and its adverse effects.

### Issue/Background

Access to drinking water is a critical concern for most rural communities as family members, mostly women and girls, have to travel long distances fetch water often from unimproved source. In the past, as part of projects aiming to strengthen access to drinking water, water points have usually been constructed where the groundwater is located. This meant that the distance that women and girls had to walk to reach the water point was not always reduced. To improve this situation UNICEF, initiated a new approach to strengthen drinking water supply, consisting in the following key components:

- construction of a solar powered water point;
- laying of water pipes between the new improved water source and the point of use to bring the access to safe water physically closer to users;
- construction a reservoir tank for water storage;
- establishing a distribution network inside the village with taps near households.

### Rationale

In the context of an arid climate with very little rainfall as well as chronic drought which has affected Djibouti for the past decade, access to drinking water is a critical priority for rural populations. Through the implementation of small water conveyance systems to improve access to drinking water for rural communities, UNICEF aims to contribute to the achievement of SDG 6, in particular target 6.1 aiming to achieve a universal access to improved drinking water service. The expected results include improved access to drinking water, a reduced burden on women and girls who traditionally fetch water as well as positive effects beyond the WASH sector, including school enrolment, food security, nutrition and health outcomes.

### Strategy and implementation

UNICEF's strategy in the WASH sector in Djibouti is threefold: (i) strengthening the enabling and policy environment through support to planning, monitoring and evaluation; (ii) supporting the DHR on direct



service delivery to improve coverage of safe drinking water and sanitation as well as strengthening the DHR's capacity to increasingly play a role hygiene promotion; (iii) working with communities on participatory approaches to water management and the promotion of good hygiene practices. As part of its upstream advocacy, UNICEF supported the government to align its programmatic interventions to implement SDG commitments related to WASH and implement drinking water projects in accordance with international standards.

The establishment of small drinking water supply systems in rural villages requires the construction of shallow wells which are then equipped with solar pumps which pump water through pipes covering distance of 2-3 km up to the closest village. The pipes then feed a water reservoir installed at the highest point in the village, then taps are established in place in each part of the village to provide families with access to drinking water close to their homes.

### **Resources Required/Allocated**

Thematic funds were the primary funding source to implement the intervention. Furthermore, UNICEF provided technical expertise through its WASH staff, as well as staff members covering child survival and development and Communication for Development.

### **Progress and Results**

In 2018 thanks to UNICEF support 7,280 persons gained access to drinking water close to their homes, thus significantly reducing the burden on women and girls to collect water for both human consumption and for animals, as well as cooking and washing. This enables girls to attend school and women to take up economic activities. Furthermore, the availability of drinking water in sufficient quantity and adequate quality has led to an improvement of child health as waterborne diseases are not as frequently reported among children under 5. Additionally, several households in intervention areas have started to farm small gardens in front of their dwellings to grow vegetables for their families and fodder for their livestock. Given critical levels of food insecurity in rural areas, relatively simple WASH interventions are therefore not only improving access to safe drinking water, but also resulting in improved livelihoods and resilience.

### **Lessons learned:**

The following lessons have been learnt through project implementation:

- The implementation of small supply systems of drinking water supply systems has a positive impact beyond providing access to water and improves health and education outcomes as well as livelihoods;
- The improvement of access to WASH services supports women's and girls' empowerment due to the reduced burden of fetching water.

### **Moving forward**

While the project approach has proven to be successful, rural communities' unmet need in terms of access to safe drinking water is still significant. Considerable financial resources and innovative financing models will be required to achieve effective coverage with safe drinking water at scale.

## Financial Analysis

In 2018, the WASH section had a planned budget of US\$596,861 including US\$ 77,805 in Regular Resources (RR), US\$ 519,056 in Other Resources – Regular (ORR) as part of CPD and show in table below.

**TABLE 1: PLANNED BUDGET FOR WASH IN 2018**

<b>Thematic Pool 6 : WASH Djibouti Planned and Funded For Country Programme 2018 (in USD)</b>		
<b>Intermediate Results</b>	<b>Funding Type<sup>1</sup></b>	<b>Planned Budget<sup>2</sup></b>
24-01 Water	RR	57,624
	ORR	277,466
24-02 Sanitation	RR	20,181
	ORR	241,590
<b>Total</b>	<b>RR</b>	<b>77,805</b>
	<b>ORR</b>	<b>519,056</b>

In 2018, the WASH section had an annual ceiling of 1,519,405 US\$ including an allocation of 137,991 US\$ in Regular Resources (RR), complemented by US\$ 1,093,826 US\$ in Other Resources 287,589 in Other Resources – Emergency (ORE).

**TABLE 2: THEMATIC CONTRIBUTIONS TO THE THEMATIC POOL IN 2018**

<b>Thematic Pool: WASH Thematic Contribution Received by UNICEF Djibouti in 2018 (US Dollars)</b>			
<b>Donors</b>	<b>Grant Number*</b>	<b>Contribution Amount</b>	<b>Programmable Amount</b>
French Committee for UNICEF	SC1899060034	37,172	34,570
Italian National Committee	SC1899060035	39,803	37,017

Netherlands Committee for UNICEF	SC1899060036	14,506	13,491
United Kingdom Committee for UNICEF	SC1899060037	60,499	56,263.80
German Committee for UNICEF	SC1899060038	90,015	83,714.19
<b>Total</b>		<b>241,995</b>	<b>225,055</b>

**TABLE 3: EXPENDITURES BY KEY RESULTS AREAS IN 2018**

	Expenditure Amount*			
	Other Resources - Emergency	Other Resources - Regular	Regular Resources	All Programme Accounts
<b>24-01 Water</b>	144,291	<b>544,238</b>	<b>58,372</b>	746,901
<b>24-02 Sanitation</b>	143,298	549,588	79,618	772,504
<b>Total</b>	<b>287,589</b>	<b>1,093,826</b>	<b>137,991</b>	<b>1,519,405</b>

As shown in table 3, similar parts of the budget were allocated to water supply and sanitation.

**TABLE 2: THEMATIC EXPENSES BY PROGRAMME AREA**

Fund Category	All Programme Accounts
Year	2018
Business Area	Djibouti - 6690
Prorated Goal Area	24 Safe and Clean Environment
Donor Class Level2	Thematic

Row Labels	Expense
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Other Resources - Emergency	177,492
24-01 Water	95,262
24-02 Sanitation	82,230
Other Resources - Regular	232,039
24-01 Water	111,672
24-02 Sanitation	120,367
<b>Grand Total</b>	<b>409,531</b>

**TABLE 3: EXPENSES BY SPECIFIC INTERVENTION CODES**

Fund Category	All Programme Accounts	▼
Year	2018	▼
Business Area	Djibouti - 6690	▼
Prorated Goal Area	24 Safe and Clean Environment	▼
Fund Sub-Category	(Multiple Items)	▼

Row Labels	▼ Expense
24-01-01 WASH - Enabling environment (policies/strategies, coordination, regulation, financing, planning-monitoring-review, sector capacity development and professionalization)	149,854
24-01-06 Water supply - rural communities service delivery	571,177
24-02-03 Hygiene promotion activities in communities	182,369
24-02-04 Sanitation and hygiene - eliminating open defecation in rural communities	455,757
24-02-11 WASH humanitarian cluster/humanitarian sector coordination	31,272
24-02-99 Technical assistance - Sanitation	69,634
26-02-02 MICS - General	1,843
26-02-08 Programme monitoring	3,572
26-03-01 Advocacy and partnership-building for social behaviour change	12,921
26-03-02 Capacity and skills development for social behaviour change	236
26-03-07 Strengthening C4D in Government systems including preparedness for humanitarian action	3
26-03-99 Technical assistance - Cross - sectoral communication for development	6,839
26-07-01 Operations support to programme delivery	31,065
27-01-07 HQ and RO technical support on gender	
28-07-03 Country office leadership and direction	1,032
28-07-04 Management and Operations support at CO	1,831
<b>Grand Total</b>	<b>1,519,405</b>

**TABLE 4: PLANNED BUDGET FOR 2019**

Intermediate Result	Funding Type	Planned Budget	Funded Budget	Shortfall <sup>2</sup>
24-01 Water	RR	57,624	0	57,624

	ORR	277,466	585,665	-308,199
	ORE		20,604	-20,604
24-02 Sanitation	RR	82,234	20,000	62,234
	ORR	179,537	329,406	-149,869
	ORE		13,881	-13,881
RR	RR	139,858	20,000	119,858
ORR	ORR	457,003	915,071	-458,068
ORE	ORE	0	34,485	-34,485
<b>Total for 2019</b>		<b>596,861</b>	<b>969,556</b>	<b>-372,695</b>

## Future Work Plan

UNICEF's 2019/20 work plan with the DHR focuses on strengthening the enabling environment to improve access to safe drinking water in Djibouti through the provision of accurate routine data on the sector for timely decision making, the operationalization of the M&E system as well as community empowerment for participatory water point management and hygiene promotion. In addition, UNICEF plans to strengthen sector coordination and oversight by the DHR over contributions of all partners (publics, NGOs and private) to ensure alignment with national priorities and strategies. This will improve the collaboration between all WASH stakeholders for enhanced synergy and complementarity of interventions on the ground. The total estimated budget for 2019-2020 action plan is USD2.4 million, with USD900,000 secured in 2019 thanks to WASH thematic funds.

## Expression of thanks

UNICEF Djibouti expresses its deep gratitude to all donors for their financial contribution to the WASH sector. Their commitment has enhanced the well-being of many children and mothers and, in many cases, saved lives. On behalf of all children and women who benefited – and continue to benefit – from the interventions provided thanks to their support, UNICEF expresses its gratitude.

UNICEF Djibouti would also like to thank its Headquarters and MENA Regional Office for the Thematic Funds received. By being unmarked, these funds could be allocated to areas that were dramatically underfunded and where there was an urgent need to intervene with no or limited alternative sources.

## Annexes

Annex 1: Human Interest Story (see separate file)

Annex 2: Donor feedback form

[English version](#)

[French version](#)

## Djibouti Country Office

### Thematic Report TP6

### Human Interest Story

#### Providing safe drinking water in rural communities in Djibouti

Beyadeh is a remote rural semi-nomadic community hosting almost 80 permanent households and 50 nomadic families living in the surrounding sectors. The locality is part of Ali Sabieh region and it is situated a two-hour drive on dirt tracks from Djibouti city, close to the border with Somalia.



**1** A PHOTOVOLTAIC PANEL OF A SOLAR POWERED WATER SUPPLY SYSTEM IN BEYADEH

Beyadeh has a desert climate, during the year, there is virtually no rainfall, and the annual average temperature reaches 32.2 °C. The extreme weather conditions and scarce water resources are a threat to the livelihoods of the communities who are nomadic and semi-sedentary

pastoralists.

To address this challenge UNICEF is supporting the Directorate of Rural Hydraulics (DHR) with financial and technical support for the construction of water infrastructure for the Beyadeh community, including a solar-powered water system. By using solar energy, the system pumps treated water from a borehole to the constructed water reservoir which then feeds into the two delivery systems serving the two villages and the nearby school. Now that women and children have access to safe water close to home, they are not only healthier, but have more time to go to school and the women are saving time doing productive chores



whilst children can play with friends and enjoy their childhood. Almost every household has started to cultivate small gardens, thus supporting food security.

### **Clean water saves lives and time**

In Beyadeh we meet Halima, a 40-year-old mother of nine. Her life has changed thanks to the UNICEF-supported water project as she no longer has to walk long distances through a brutally arid landscape to search for water which is not safe to drink.



**2** HALIMA HAWA FETCHES WATER FROM A WATER TAP 5 METRES AWAY FROM HER HOUSE IN BEYADEH, ALI SABIEH

*‘Before the project I used to fetch water from the traditional wells. The water was not safe to drink since wild animals also come to drink water from that same source, but there was no other way. I also came to realise that my children were suffering from diarrhea because of the unclean water’.*

A glance at the green splash of the garden amidst the dry surroundings is a

delightful symbol of life against the odds. The garden has tomatoes, onions, peppers and grass for Halima’s goats which are constantly supplying her family with nutritious milk.



3 HALIMA HAWA'S DAUGHTER AGED 9, STANDS BEHIND HER MOTHER'S AGRO-PASTORAL GARDEN, A SOURCE OF LIVELIHOOD FOR THE FAMILY

The WASH project has shown enormous potential to provide both food security and health benefits to the community. Access to cleaner water has reduced the cost of health care since children are less susceptible to water borne diseases.

### **Every drop keeps children in school**

As we continue talking to Halima about the changes in her daily routine since the inception of the project, Halima recalls the most significant impact this project had on her as a mother of school going children. *'Two years ago, I was pregnant with my 8<sup>th</sup> child, whom I delivered through caesarean section and when I was discharged from the clinic I had no one to bring me water at home. This meant that I had to pull all my five children from school, for them to come back and stay with me until I was strong enough to fetch water. They had to miss school for some time and this greatly affected them.'*

The community leader and the local school teacher also point out that the project has provided hygienic gender-segregated. The facility is also enabling more than 200 school-age children to focus on their education and enjoying their childhoods rather than spending long hours searching for water every day.

In rural Djibouti, nearly 65 per cent of the population does not have access to safe drinking water and are at risk of catching diseases transmitted by unsafe water. The reservoir in Beyadeh, with its photovoltaic and solar powered pump installed by UNICEF, is meeting the needs of nearly 80 households of an average of six people each, thus preventing some 600 people from contracting diseases transmitted by unclean water.

Additional bottlenecks include the lack of official standards for water quality control, and of a strategy for community management of water points; the inadequate information management system; and the limited capacity within government authorities managing the WASH sector. UNICEF is working with Government in Djibouti to strengthen the policy environment, including the monitoring and evaluation system for the WASH sector as well as to provide remote rural communities, like the one in Beyadeh, with sustainable access to safe water and sanitation.