Modern slavery in Djibouti
Global Slavery Index 2023
Country Snapshot

The scale of modern slavery
According to the 2023 Global Slavery Index, an estimated 7.1 in every thousand people were in modern slavery in Djibouti at any point in 2021. In other words, 7,000 people experienced forced labour or forced marriage in Djibouti in 2021. In terms of prevalence of modern slavery, Djibouti ranks 53rd globally and 10th within Africa.
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Vulnerability to modern slavery
How vulnerable a country’s people are to modern slavery is dependent on a range of factors which reflect the strength of governance, access to basic needs, inequality, disenfranchised groups, and effects of conflict. On a scale of 0 to 100, with 100 being the highest vulnerability, Djibouti is rated as 57 and has below average vulnerability for the region. Vulnerability is highest in terms of governance issues, followed by disenfranchised groups.

Figure 3.
Vulnerability of Djibouti to modern slavery by dimension, compared to the regional average

Government response to modern slavery
The government of Djibouti scored 36 out of 100 in their response to modern slavery. This places the government’s response below the average regional response. Of the five areas of response assessed (milestones), the government has taken most action on effective criminal justice mechanisms and the least action on addressing risk in government and business supply chains.

Figure 4.
Government of Djibouti’s responses to modern slavery by milestone, compared with the regional average

Priority Recommendations for the government of Djibouti

1. Criminalise commercial sexual exploitation of children in line with international conventions.

2. Increase the legal age of marriage for males and females to 18 years without exceptions.

3. Ensure support services are available for all victims of modern slavery, regardless of gender, age, nationality, or sexuality.

For more information on modern slavery, visit the Global Slavery Index 2023 website.