

REGIONAL MEETING ON THE IMPLEMENTATION OF THE RAMSAR CONVENTION IN THE ARAB REGION

Country report

Djibouti

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1. Republic of Djibouti, an introduction to the country

a. Geographical location



Djibouti is located at the Horn of Africa, at the northern mouth of the African Rift Valley, at the south narrowest point of the Red Sea (the Bab el Mandeb straits).

And this area is recognized to be the home of a variety of species of fauna and flora adapted to the extremely arid conditions.

b. Country size and population

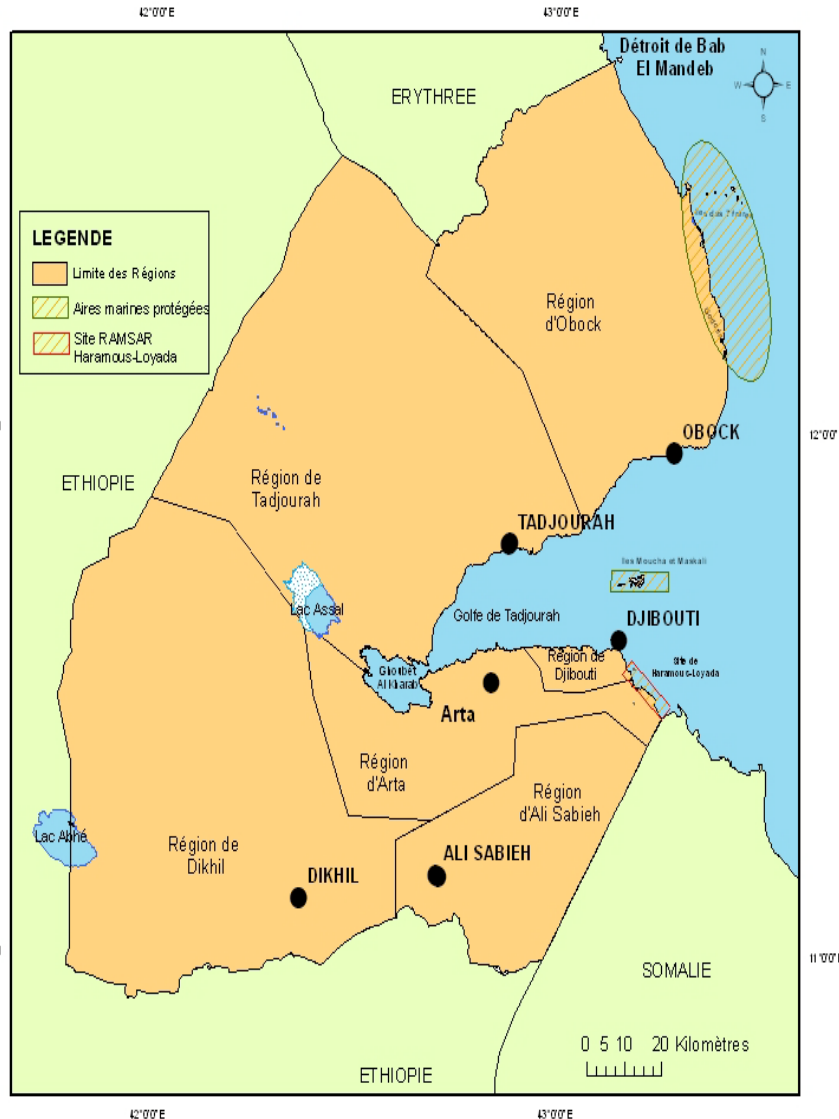
Republic of Djibouti

With an area of 23 200 km² and a population of 632 00 inhabitants in 2000 (common Assessment of country, United-Nations, February 2002), Djibouti is one of the smallest and less populated countries of continental Africa.

It shares terrestrial borders with Eritrea in North, Ethiopia in the West and Western – North and Somalia in the South.



LOCALISATION DE
LA REPUBLIQUE
DE DJIBOUTI DANS
LA SOUS-REGION



2. Ramsar Convention in Djibouti

i. Date of ratification

Djibouti ratified the Ramsar Convention on September 9th, 2002

ii. Ramsar site in Djibouti

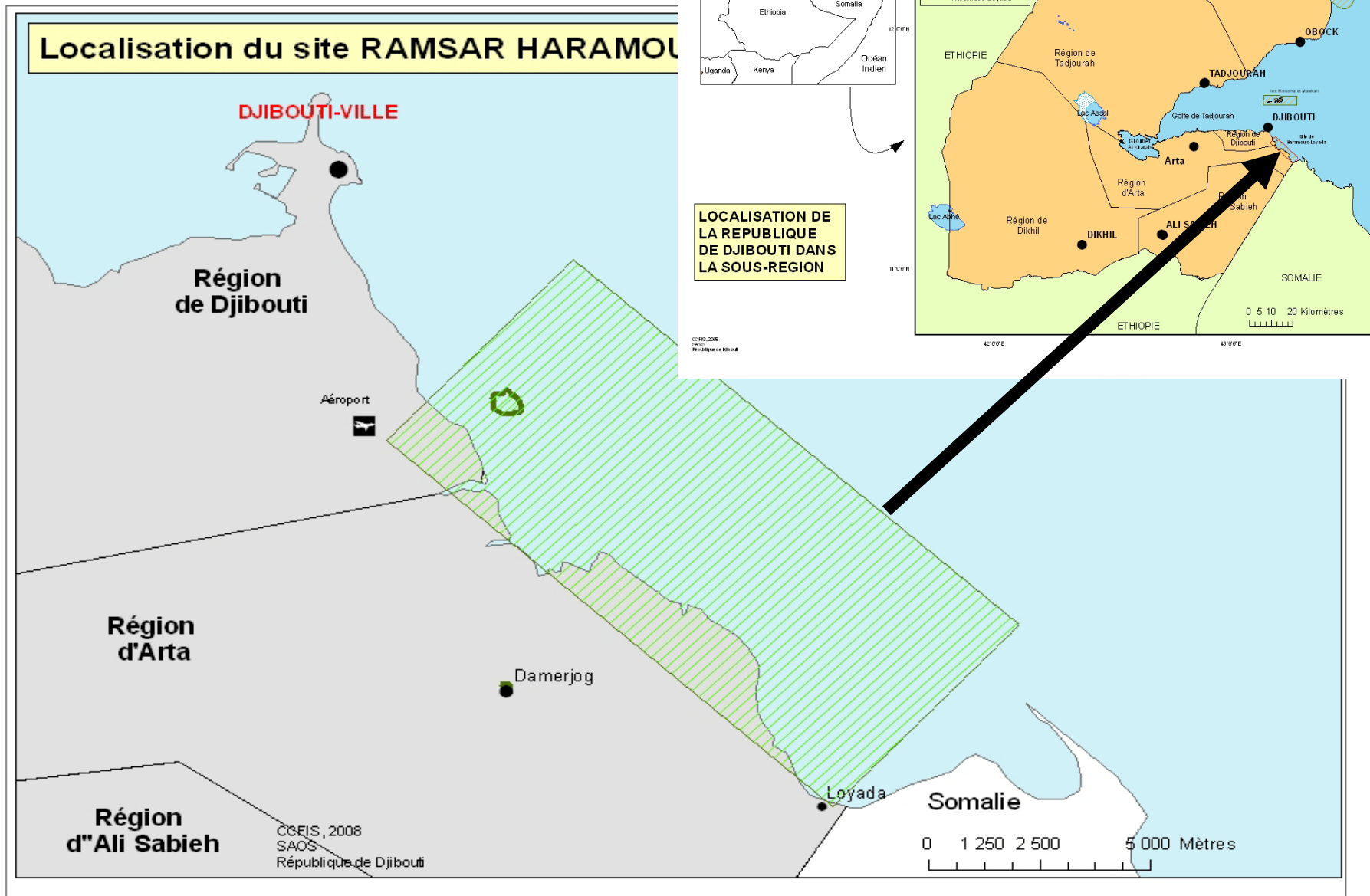
During the ratification period in 2002, Djibouti declared only one site as a Ramsar site and is the following one:

Haramous –Loyada Ramsar Site

Haramous –Loyada was designated on March 22nd, 2002 as an international important wetlands site and registered in the list of international important wetlands site with the number of 1239).

2. Ramsar site in Djibouti

Location of the Ramsar site



2. Ramsar site in Djibouti (cont...)

Type of declared Ramsar site in Djibouti

Haramous –Loyada Ramsar site is a mixed of Marine and estuarine site with coral reefs, intertidal mudflat and mangrove swamps

Status of the site

Haramous –Loyada Ramsar site is an international important wetlands site and marine protected site at national level.

Value of Haramous –Loyada site

For people and economy

Haramous –Loyada Ramsar site provides at local level, an important economic incomes i.e. agriculture, water and marine resources.

2. Ramsar site in Djibouti (cont...)

Value of Haramous –Loyada site (cont...)

For biodiversity

Haramous –Loyada site is an Important Bird Area (IBA), it hosts an international importance population of water birds, marine turtles, terrestrial and marine mammals with a number of critically endangered species such as Caretta caretta, Chelonia mydas, Eretmochelys imbricata and Dugong dugon and many others.

Legislations in place to protect the wetlands “Haramous –Loyada site”

General laws are in place to protect wetlands and global biodiversity in Djibouti

Law n°106/AN/00/04 on Environment Framework of 2000.

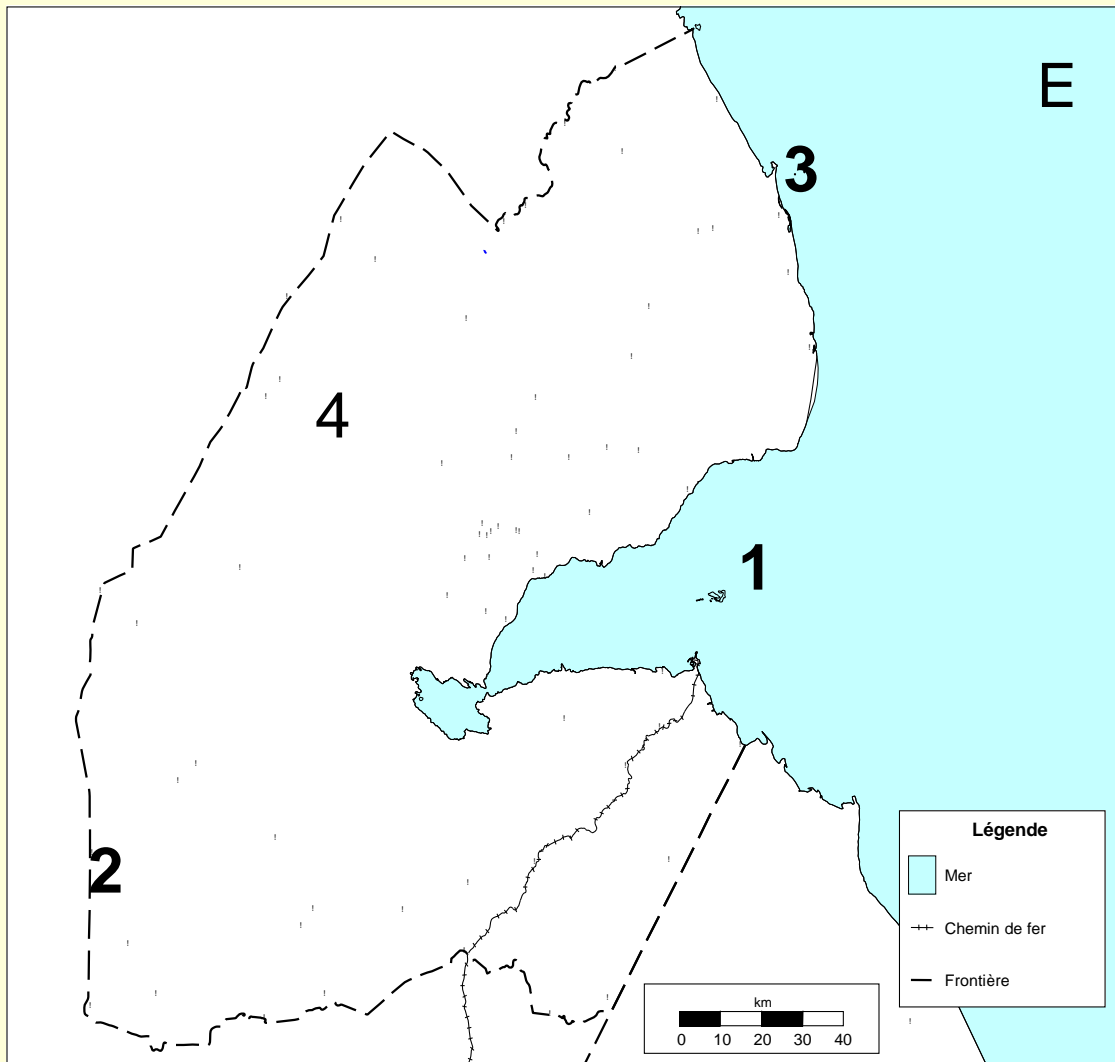
✓ Law n°186/AN/02/4L on the Ratification of Ramsar Convention of 2002

✓ Law n°45/AN/04/5L on the creation of Marine and terrestrial protected Areas of 2004.

✓ Decree n°2004-0065/PR/MHUEAT on Biodiversity protection of 2004

3. Potential wetlands in Djibouti

Location of the wetlands



1. Musha and Msakali Islands
2. Lake Abhé
3. Northeast Coastal region included Sept Frères Islands
4. Northwest region including Allol depressions, Doda, Andaba and Madgoul

Type and status of these sites

Musha and Msakali Islands:

It is a marine wetlands type with coral reefs, rocky shores, lagoons with mangrove swamps

And it is a marine protected area within the framework of the Law n°45/AN/04/5L on the creation of Marine and terrestrial protected Areas of 2004.

Lake Abhé

It is a lacustrine wetlands type And it is a terrestrial protected area within the framework of the Law n°45/AN/04/5L on the creation of Marine and terrestrial protected Areas of 2004.

Type and status of these sites

Northeast Coastal region included Sept Frères Islands

It is a marine wetlands type with coral reefs, volcanic rocky shores, lagoons with mangrove swamps.

And it is a marine protected area within the framework of the Law n°45/AN/04/5L on the creation of Marine and terrestrial protected Areas of 2004.

Northwest region including Allol depressions, Doda, Andaba and Madgoul

It is a temporary wetlands type And it is not a protected area.

Legislations in place to protect the wetlands in Djibouti

General laws are in place to protect wetlands and global biodiversity in Djibouti

- ✓ Law n°106/AN/00/04 on Environment Framework of 2000.**
- ✓ Law n°186/AN/02/4L on the Ratification of Ramsar Convention of 2002**
- ✓ Law n°45/AN/04/5L on the creation of Marine and terrestrial protected Areas of 2004.**
- ✓ Decree n°2004-0065/PR/MHUEAT on Biodiversity protection of 2004**

Threats to wetlands in Djibouti

In Djibouti, the main threats that wetlands and other important ecosystems face are:

- ✓ Weaknesses or lack of legislations on use of natural resources and environment protection**
- ✓ Lack or bad management of wastes**
- ✓ Over use of water resources in some wetlands for human consumption and agriculture**
- ✓ Deforestation i.e. mangroves and acacia trees**

Further work/assistance needed to protect wetlands in Djibouti

In Djibouti, the main works/assistance needed must be:

- ✓ **the upgrade or empowerment of the existing legislations on natural resources use and environment protection**
- ✓ **The building capacity of the Ramsar Convention's Administrative Authority**

Expectation from this meeting

- ✓ **Get lessons from the other implementation Ramsar Convention agency representatives and share experiences with them.**

Thank you