

SAVING
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Project Number: 201051 | Project Category: **Single Country Special Operation**

Project Approval Date: June 16, 2017 | Planned Start Date: January 01, 2017

Actual Start Date: June 01, 2017 | Project End Date: December 31, 2018

Financial Closure Date: N/A

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Standard Project Report 2018

World Food Programme in Somalia, Somali Republic (SO)



**World Food
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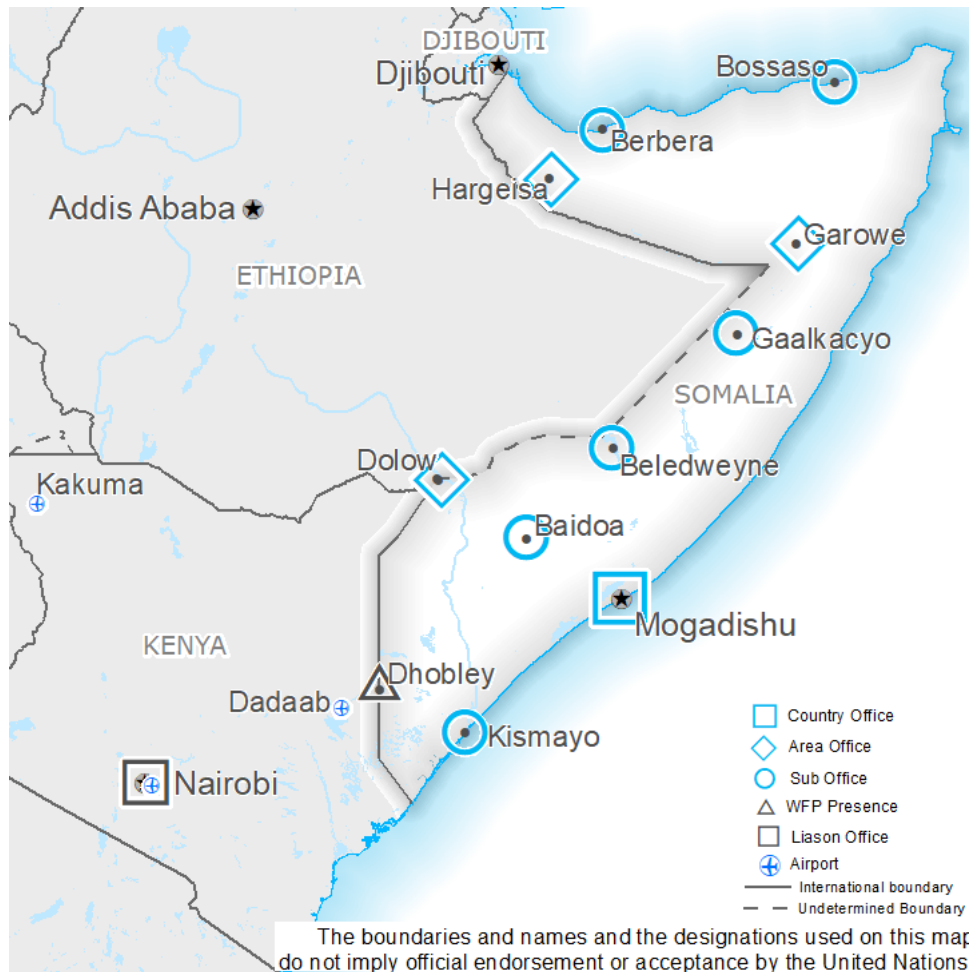
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Country Context and WFP Objectives



Achievements at Country Level

To protect the gains made from the large-scale humanitarian response to the 2016-2017 drought in Somalia, WFP maintained life-saving relief and nutrition assistance to food insecure households and young children and women in areas with high malnutrition rates throughout the year. Following a good Gu (April-June) rainfall season, WFP transitioned over 415,000 people whose food security situation had improved to livelihood activities to help build their resilience to future shocks. By the end of the year WFP had assisted 2.3 million people (nearly 80 percent of the 2018 target) through all activities, distributing nearly 87,000 metric tons (mt) of food commodities and cash-based transfers (CBT) valued at USD 116 million. WFP assistance led to positive outcomes such as increased access to food, and diet diversification among drought and flood-affected households (including internally displaced persons), returnees and the urban poor. There was also an increase in the number of functioning livelihoods assets in communities, as well as a decrease in the number of households adopting negative food-related strategies to cope with shocks. The indicators for nutrition activities met or surpassed SPHERE[1] standards while retention rates among children in WFP-supported schools remained stable. WFP's Humanitarian Air Service (UNHAS) met its 2018 targets for the movement of personnel, light cargo and medical and security evacuations by responding rapidly, efficiently and flexibly in support of WFP activities as well as to the fast-changing needs of the wider humanitarian community.

WFP continued to strengthen its partnership with the Federal Government of Somalia, regional authorities, local partners, UN agencies and the private sector through increased coordination, joint planning and monitoring and integration of services. These partnerships prompted the use of innovative solutions in logistics, livelihoods and asset-creation activities, school feeding as well as monitoring and evaluation, and resulted in positive programme

outcomes and the realization of project targets as the three-year Protracted Relief and Recovery Operation (PRRO 200844) ended.

In anticipation of the transition to the Interim Country Strategic Plan (ICSP 2019-2021), WFP expanded its multi-year resilience programming to include education, nutrition and capacity building activities. WFP also launched an urban safety net programme in Mogadishu to help address the challenges of protracted displacement and urban vulnerability. Building on its successes under the PRRO, WFP in 2019 will continue to draw on its comparative advantage and coverage to respond to crises, while implementing broader safety net and resilience-strengthening activities, working across the humanitarian-development-peace nexus.

[1] SPHERE standards are a set of common principles and universal minimum humanitarian standards to be applied in humanitarian responses

Country Context and Response of the Government

After nearly three decades of political and economic instability, Somalia is on a positive trajectory with significant progress made since the re-establishment of the Federal Government in 2012. However, the country continues to struggle with chronic and acute food insecurity[1] and poor nutrition, conflict and insecurity, and natural hazards such as drought and floods. Over half of the country's 12.3 million people live below the poverty line[2] and many Somalis still do not have access to basic public services. Settlements of Internally displaced persons (IDPs) fare the worst with poverty rates above 70 percent. Cycles of conflict, drought and floods have forced 2.6 million people[3] in Somalia to leave their homes and seek refuge in urban areas where they often live in appalling conditions, face constant eviction and have no access to health or education services. Approximately 70-80 percent of IDPs are women and children.[4]

Somalia's current economy is dependent on imports, creating a trade deficit financed by remittances and international aid.[5] The agricultural sector, mainly livestock, remains the largest sector in Somalia's economy, as well as largest employer in rural areas and export earner. The country has very few processing facilities to prevent post-harvest losses or add value. Women are involved in the informal sector, especially in micro-enterprises, small trade and markets,[6] while men are generally more involved in farm labour and formal employment. Somali women compared to men have unequal access to agriculture, livestock and fisheries production inputs and technology,[7] worsening inequalities in these sectors.

Somalia ranks among the weakest countries in the world for health indicators, with mortality rates of 137/1,000 live births[8] among children under the age of five and maternal mortality rates of 732/100,000 live births.[9] The estimated HIV prevalence in Somalia is 0.1 percent[10] with 11,000 people living with HIV (PLHIV), nearly half of whom are women aged 15 and above. Tuberculosis is highly prevalent with an incidence currently estimated at 285 cases per 100,000 people.[11] The availability of HIV treatment and care services is very low, with only 5 percent of medical facilities offering treatment and care services countrywide.[12] Less than a third (28 percent) of all people diagnosed with HIV infection receive Antiretroviral Therapy (ART).[13] A recent gender assessment of the Somali HIV response acknowledged sexual gender-based violence as prevalent with young girls as an important high-risk group.[14]

Gender inequality in Somalia is the fourth highest globally,[15] with high levels of gender-based violence, harmful practices such as child marriage, female genital mutilation, under-representation of women in decision-making bodies, and discriminatory customs relating to production, procurement, purchase and preparation of food. Levels of school enrolment and education attainment are low, with access to education skewed in favour of male children; 56 percent of children enrolled in primary school are boys.[16] Only 17 percent of children living in rural areas or IDP settlements are enrolled in primary school.[17]

In 2018, Somalia received unusually good rains over the Gu (April- June) season, ending the drought that had persisted since 2016. However, heavy rains and strong ocean winds also caused widespread flooding in south and central Somalia and tropical cyclones in Puntland, damaging crops and road infrastructure and limiting supply and access to markets. Consequently, despite the overall improvement in the food security situation through most of 2018, 1.5 million people[18] faced acute levels of hunger by the end of the year. Malnutrition rates remained high with the national Global Acute Malnutrition (GAM) rate classified as serious at 14 percent, with rates exceeding the critical threshold in several sub-regions and among IDP populations. The key drivers of chronic and acute malnutrition in Somalia include food insecurity, high morbidity, low immunization and socio-cultural factors that lead to suboptimal infant and young child feeding practices and care.[19] These include systemic gender inequalities evident in women's disproportionate workloads (domestic and casual labour), the prevalence of girl marriage and early motherhood, low formal education rates for girls, restrictions on mobility, lack of sexual and reproductive

health services, and discriminatory socio-cultural beliefs about childcare and health-seeking practices.

Security and access remain a significant challenge, with a continuous threat of insurgent attacks especially in southern Somalia where many areas are still inaccessible. However, military operations by the Somali government and allied forces in recent years have increased humanitarian access to areas previously controlled by Al-Shabaab, including urban locations in the southern parts of the country. Clan conflicts and attacks in other areas of the country also pose security risks resulting in population displacement and interruption of markets and humanitarian assistance. A resurgence of the protracted conflict between Somaliland and Puntland over the disputed Sool region in northern Somalia led to sporadic violent clashes in 2018, leading to the new displacement of more than 2,000 families from the Tukaraq area.

The Somali government has progressively taken leadership in addressing the inherent challenges facing the country by coordinating and collaborating with the international community as well as local stakeholders including the private sector, to set priorities for the national development agenda. In 2016, the Somali government established its first National Development Plan (NDP) in over 30 years. Building on the New Deal Compact[20], the NDP serves as the overarching framework for development priorities in Somalia from 2017 to 2019. Unlike many development plans, the NDP integrates security and political priorities and outlines a plan to accelerate socio-economic transformation to reduce poverty, revive the economy, and transform Somali society in a socially just and gender equitable manner.[21] The NDP focuses on resilience, economic recovery, inclusive politics and strengthening of national security as pathways to achieving long term development and well-being of the Somali people. Gender, youth, capacity development, human rights, and the environment are integrated in the NDP as cross-cutting themes.

[1] A 2018 WFP Integrated Context Analysis of food security-related trends over the past few years found that on average 1.53 million people were recurrently food insecure in Somalia between 2012- 2017. In addition, 1.5 million people were acutely food insecure due to natural shocks, such as droughts and floods.

[2] See <http://www.worldbank.org/en/country/somalia/overview>

[3] OCHA, 'Somalia Humanitarian Dashboard- May 2018' issued on 14 June 2018

[4] UNDP, 'Gender in Somalia Brief 2,' 2016

[5] *ibid.*

[6] World Bank, 'Somali Poverty Profile 2016: Findings from Wave 1 of the Somali High Frequency Survey,' 2017

[7] FGS, WB, EU, UN, 'Drought Impact Needs Assessment', 2018

[8] See https://www.unicef.org/somalia/health_53.html

[9] *Ibid.*

[10] UNAIDS 'Somalia Country Fact Sheet' 2017

[11] 'Somali National Strategic Plan for Tuberculosis Control (2018 – 2022)'

[12] 'Somalia HIV National Strategic Plan & Monitoring and Evaluation Plan (2018-2020)'

[13] UNAIDS 'Country Fact Sheet 2017'

[14] 'Somalia HIV National Strategic Plan & Monitoring and Evaluation Plan (2018-2020)'

[15] OECD Development Center, Social Institutions and Gender Index, 2014.

[16] Federal Government of Somalia, 'Education Sector Analysis 2018-2020,' 2017.

[17] *Ibid.*

[18] OCHA, 'Somalia: Humanitarian Snapshot' issued on 11 December 2018

[19] Strengthening Nutrition Security in South Somalia Consortium. 2015. 'Nutrition Causal Analysis Study: South and Central Somalia'.

[20] A planning and coordination tool endorsed in 2013 to guide the development efforts of the Somali government and its partners from 2014 to 2016.

[21] National Development Plan 2017-2019, p.xii

WFP Objectives and Strategic Coordination

In 2018, Somalia was still reeling from the impact of a severe drought. WFP's activities in Somalia were therefore geared towards meeting the immediate food needs of households recovering from the drought, stabilizing and reducing undernutrition and supporting the recovery and enhancing the resilience of affected households. This was done under a three-year Protracted Relief and Recovery Operation (PRRO 200844) that ended in December 2018, as well as two Special Operations providing complementary air services and logistical and capacity strengthening support. Considering the complex security context of Somalia, WFP maintained its operations by adhering to UN standards for safety and security and ensuring that risks were mitigated in a manner that allowed programme activities to be carried out with minimal interruption.

Under the PRRO, WFP provided unconditional relief assistance to households affected by drought, floods and conflict in rural and urban areas, and in Internally Displaced Person (IDP) settlements throughout the country. WFP also provided nutrition assistance for the prevention of chronic malnutrition among children aged 6-23 months and Pregnant and Lactating Women (PLWs), prevention of acute malnutrition among children aged 6-59 months and PLWs, and treatment of moderate acute malnutrition among children aged 6-59 months, PLWs, ART and TB DOTS[1] clients. Livelihoods recovery and safety net programmes included Food Assistance for Assets (FFA), Food Assistance For Training (FFT), school feeding and a newly introduced urban safety net programme targeting IDPs, urban poor and other vulnerable households in Mogadishu. Under school feeding, WFP introduced a home-grown programme through vouchers to encourage the consumption of nutritious and diverse local foods in schools as well as promote community engagement and sustainability through the involvement of local smallholder farmers.

Through Special Operation 200924, WFP provided safe and reliable air transport for humanitarian agencies and donors operating in Somalia (including hard to reach and flooded locations in the south) and neighbouring Kenya through the United Nations Humanitarian Air Service (UNHAS). Special Operation 201051 sought to increase the operational capacity and efficiency of Kismayo Port - a strategic supply corridor for humanitarian assistance and local businesses in southern Somalia, through rehabilitation works and training of port staff.

WFP continued to strengthen its partnerships with the federal government of Somalia as well as regional authorities in the implementation of its activities throughout the year. WFP increased its engagement with the ministries of health, education, agriculture and irrigation at the federal and regional level through regular consultations, joint monitoring, capacity strengthening through training, and signing of agreements (Letters of Understanding) to facilitate better collaboration and implementation of activities. By the end of the year, WFP had signed 12 agreements with government ministries, compared to nine in 2017 and only four at the beginning of the PRRO in 2016.

WFP and the United Nations Children's Fund (UNICEF) provided technical support in the development of a national social protection policy and framework. The policy was developed through a consultative process that included Somalia's federal and state governments, Member States in the region, humanitarian and development donors, non-governmental organizations (NGOs), UN agencies and consortia. The final policy is expected to be presented to the Somalia Cabinet in March 2019.

The UN Strategic Framework (UNSF) 2017-2020 outlines the UN's support to peace and state-building in Somalia, focusing on five priorities, with WFP contributing to the resilience strengthening and socio-economic opportunities priorities. WFP is also part of the Durable Solutions Initiative, which brings together UN agencies and NGOs to address issues related to displacement through strategies aligned with longer-term government policies. WFP remains an active partner of the Return Consortium led by the United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees (UNHCR) and in 2018 continued to support the voluntary return and integration of Somali refugees from Dadaab.

WFP and UNICEF, in close coordination with the Ministry of Health (MOH), implemented a joint resilience programme funded by BMZ (German Federal Ministry for Economic Cooperation and Development) through KfW (a German government-owned development bank) in Gedo and Banadir regions in southern Somalia. The three-year joint programme focuses on nutrition, health and WASH interventions, capacity development of the MOH's supply chain system, and provision of financial and technical support to the Scaling Up Nutrition (SUN) Secretariat. In 2018, WFP facilitated a learning and bench-marking trip to Zambia for Ministry of Health supply chain department staff. Through this joint programme, WFP is better able to support resilience-building as the predictable nature of multi-year funding allows for longer term planning, better integration and more targeted interventions.

As nutrition cluster leads, WFP and UNICEF supported the government and the nutrition sector in mapping the country's nutrition service delivery plan. The agencies also supported the Ministry of Health to develop national Integrated Management of Acute Malnutrition (IMAM) guidelines that will provide a harmonized way of managing acute malnutrition across Somalia. WFP continued to co-lead the food security cluster with the Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations (FAO) and participated in the education and protection clusters. WFP provided technical support to the national HIV and AIDS in nutrition response through funding from the Unified Budget, Results and Accountability Framework (UBRAF) fund. WFP also engaged with the Joint Team on HIV and AIDS as convener of HIV- sensitive social protection with ILO and co- convener in HIV services in humanitarian emergencies

with UNHCR. Consequently, WFP was appointed an alternate member (from the UN) to the Global Fund Steering Committee for the country. This has provided an opportunity for high level advocacy to the fund on the need for supporting PLHIV with nutrition commodities due to the nutrition vulnerability of PLHIV and TB DOTS clients.

As a member and UN co-chair, WFP provided financial and technical support to the SUN Movement[2] in its strategic and critical role of coordinating and influencing multi-sectoral collaboration towards eradicating all forms of malnutrition. WFP supported the SUN Secretariat to develop the first draft of a national food fortification strategy and participated in the Fill the Nutrient Gap (FNG) study, aimed at documenting access to and affordability of an adequate nutritious diet in Somalia.

WFP's interagency collaboration included joint work with FAO under the Rome-Based Agencies (RBA) joint resilience programme and the Joint Resilience Action (JRA) that aims to strengthen resilience through improved food security and nutrition for chronically vulnerable populations. The RBA programme comprising of FAO and WFP in Somalia, and IFAD in other countries received funding in 2017 from the Canadian Government to support resilience work in three countries – Somalia, Democratic Republic of Congo and Niger over a period of five years. All recipient countries suffer from frequent shocks and chronic food insecurity and malnutrition. In Somalia, the RBA project (comprising both livelihoods and nutrition components) started in 2018 due to the ongoing drought emergency in 2017.

In 2019, WFP will transition its activities from the current Protracted Relief and Recovery Operation (PRRO) to a 3-year Interim Country Strategic Plan (ICSP). Through the ICSP, WFP will continue to respond to critical food and nutrition needs while supporting national systems – such as by working with national authorities and partners to establish reliable safety nets that respond to shocks, to strengthen food systems and to increase national capacities through a consolidated approach. The ICSP is built on the results of consultations held in 2018 with stakeholders including the federal government of Somalia, the federal states, civil society, local and international NGOs, the private sector and donors.

[1] DOTS-daily observed treatment short course

[2] The Scaling Up Nutrition (SUN) Movement is a world- wide effort led by governments and supported by organizations and individuals, to eliminate malnutrition. Somalia joined the SUN Movement in 2014 with its activities governed within the oversight of the Health and Nutrition Advisor, Office of the President.

Country Resources and Results

Resources for Results

Following a strong response from the donor and humanitarian community to avert famine in 2017, WFP maintained a high emergency (relief and nutrition) response in the first half of 2018. By the end of the year, 30 percent of beneficiaries receiving unconditional relief had been transitioned to livelihoods activities as their food security situation improved. With the generous support of donors, WFP activities under the PRRO were 50 percent resourced in 2018. Continued efforts to provide quality assistance in a cost-efficient manner saw WFP's Direct Support Costs (DSC) reduce from 28 percent in 2016 to 14 percent in 2018. Similarly, the cost of providing WFP assistance reduced by 34 percent^[1] for in-kind food and 27 percent^[2] for cash-based transfers over the duration of the PRRO. Unforeseen complexities in wreck removal works under the Special Operation for the rehabilitation of Kismayo Port delayed project implementation and pushed project costs beyond the original budget. This led to a budget revision to accommodate the additional costs. By the end of the year, the Special Operation was fully funded for the removal of a major shipwreck, which will allow the port to function at a more optimal capacity. UNHAS operations were funded through a combination of 40 percent donor contributions and 60 percent cost-recovery.

In order to meet Somalia's changing needs, WFP made a fourth budget revision to the PRRO (in December 2017) that increased the targeted beneficiaries for 2018 to 3 million people in need. Although the food security situation in Somalia generally improved in 2018, needs remained high as it would take more than one good season to reverse the impact of several poor seasons and a severe and prolonged drought. WFP's corporate advance financing mechanisms, available through the Internal Project lending mechanism, enabled the Somalia Country Office to borrow and immediately programme funds against confirmed contributions that generally took longer to process. However, reliable directed flexible funding was low, making it more difficult for WFP Somalia to fill critical pipeline gaps in the implementation of the TB/HIV programme and to continue its work with various line ministries and infrastructure works. Multilateral funding for Somalia also dropped by over 50 percent compared to 2017, forcing WFP to prioritize life-saving activities. Consequently, traditional donors sustained much of the prioritized unconditional relief activities for acutely food insecure populations, and nutrition assistance for hotspots with high GAM rates, and internally displaced populations. Early UN Central Emergency Response Fund (CERF) funding also allowed WFP to respond to riverine and flash flooding and the tropical cyclone that hit northern Somalia in the first half of the year. WFP received first time funding from donors such as South Africa, highlighting the importance of South-South cooperation for Somalia.

Through donor support, WFP scaled up its livelihood activities to build household resilience through asset creation and vocational training in both rural, peri-urban and urban households. The importance of joint programming was brought to the forefront as UNICEF, FAO and WFP engaged more deeply and strategically on how to implement more effective and cost-efficient programmes with singular outcomes. The joint programme with FAO was an example of how both agencies complement each other to build resilience at the community level. The joint UNICEF and WFP programme on strengthening maternal child health and nutrition was expanded to include school meals and education outcomes from 2019.

With critical funding from donors, WFP was able to establish an urban safety nets programme for the most vulnerable poor in Mogadishu, providing longer-term and predictable cash assistance for households that were more frequently caught in a cycle of recurrent shocks in Somalia. WFP with UNICEF worked on developing a Social Protection policy framework at the federal level to facilitate a standard and deliberate means to establish social protection measures for the entire country.

With the successful approval of WFP Somalia's Interim Country Strategic Plan (ICSP) 2019-2021, opportunities and interests exist for resilience-building initiatives to take a central role in 2019. WFP's strong relationship with the government and donors has paved the way for more deliberate, resourceful and collaborative efforts for an optimistic future in Somalia.

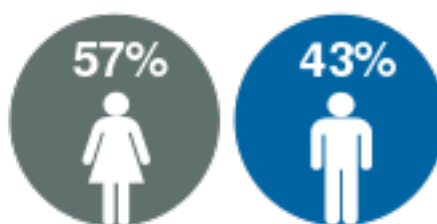
[1] Ratio of actual transfer vs. related transfer costs in 2016 was 0.93 in 2016 and 1.25 in 2018.

[2] Ratio of actual transfer vs. related transfer costs in 2016 was 9.00 in 2016 and 11.45 in 2018.



Annual Country Beneficiaries

Beneficiaries	Male	Female	Total
Children (under 5 years)	417,420	463,800	881,220
Children (5-18 years)	301,470	255,090	556,560
Adults (18 years plus)	278,280	602,938	881,218
Total number of beneficiaries in 2018	997,170	1,321,828	2,318,998




Annual Food Distribution in Country (mt)

Project Type	Cereals	Oil	Pulses	Mix	Other	Total
Single Country PRRO	45,050	6,409	9,313	27,421	43	88,236
Total Food Distributed in 2018	45,050	6,409	9,313	27,421	43	88,236



Cash Based Transfer and Commodity Voucher Distribution (USD)

Project Type	Cash	Value Voucher	Commodity Voucher
Single Country PRRO	34,527,344	81,833,261	-
Total Distributed in 2018	34,527,344	81,833,261	-

Supply Chain

WFP transported food into Somalia through the major ports of Berbera, Bosasso, Mogadishu and Kismayo. The food was transported inland by contracted trucks, monitored in real time through the latest vehicle tracking technology. In June, WFP expanded its vehicle tracking system to include contracted trucks carrying WFP food along the Kenya-Somalia corridor (Mombasa-Mandera-Dhobley). This was the first time the system was used outside of Somalia and across the border to verify truck locations and account for WFP commodities along the transport route.

Where roads were inaccessible, supplies (specialized nutritious foods and non-food items) were airlifted by up to three UNHAS-operated cargo planes positioned in Mogadishu on an ad hoc basis. To ensure humanitarian access to flooded areas in central and southern Somalia, UNHAS, supported by the Logistics Cluster^[1], mobilised a helicopter in only one week. Three motorboats were transported by air and road to Beletweyne and Jowhar, allowing partners to evacuate beneficiaries from high-risk areas, and conduct distributions and assessments.

Berbera port hosts the regional hub of WFP's Global Commodity Management Facility (GCMF), providing a strategic supply corridor for commodities in transit to Ethiopia, Yemen, Somalia and other parts of the Horn of Africa region. The GCMF accounts for 100 percent of WFP's procurement through cash-funded contributions. Using the GCMF ensured food availability in-country or on the high seas at the time of receipt of cash contributions, reducing the lead-time between initiation of procurement contracts and the arrival of those commodities at points of entry by 73 percent. Commodities procured included sorghum, maize, yellow split peas, fortified vegetable oil, SuperCereal and Ready-to-Use Supplementary Food (RUSF). WFP experienced pipeline breaks throughout the year, mainly due to lack of funding against certain activities. To support local agriculture, WFP purchased 6,500 mt of maize (including maize to be distributed under the ICSP) from smallholder farmer cooperatives in southern Somalia following a particularly good Gu rainy season.

To support the large number of beneficiaries receiving assistance through cash-based transfers, WFP maintained a strong network of 890 retailers throughout the country. WFP conducted monthly retailer relationship management meetings with the retailers and key stakeholders such as cooperating partners and local authorities to promote greater efficiency and coordination at the local level.

Following the success of its cash-based interventions (based on traditional retail trade) WFP explored innovative solutions to tackle contextual challenges such as the limited variety of food commodities stocked by traders in certain locations. Considering the strength and coverage of the mobile phone network in Somalia, WFP developed an e-commerce mobile application that allows beneficiaries to shop online and compare products, brands and prices from different retailers. Goods are delivered to beneficiaries by local retailers. The application increases the choice of retailers available to each beneficiary as well as competition between retailers. The application also links retailers to suppliers and farmers (and any other producers) – creating a business-to-business (B2B) virtual market place detached from physical location. By the end of the year, the application was live in nine locations in Somaliland and central and southern Somalia (Burao, Hargeisa, Garowe, Galkayo, Mogadishu, Kismayo, Dolow, Garbahare, Dhobley).

Considering the programmatic benefits of milling cereals prior to distribution and the lack of a modern milling facility to provide quality services at scale, WFP initiated a project to develop capacity for flour milling in Somalia. Through the project, WFP will improve the quality of its short-term emergency response by providing easy to consume foods and contribute to addressing gaps in the national food supply chain in the path towards self-reliance. Using a private-public partnership model, WFP will provide equipment and technical assistance for the development and construction of a silo storage system and modern milling infrastructure at Berbera port, while a private partner will establish and run the milling facilities. This project will contribute to WFP's objective of providing support towards developing sustainable food systems in Somalia under ICSP Strategic Objective 4. Construction of the milling facility started in 2018 with installation of equipment scheduled for early 2019.

As part of its risk-management system, WFP introduced new commodity tracking procedures to improve the monitoring of food from the point of dispatch to the point of handover to partners. The new procedures include the mandatory stamping (prior to dispatch) of commodities with codes that identify the originating warehouse, receiving partner, transporter and date of dispatch. Other elements of the risk-management system include (i) real-time supply chain tracking through LESS^[2], (ii) vehicle tracking through GPS devices fixed on all contracted trucks allowing WFP to monitor and verify truck positions up to final delivery, and (iii) third-party monitoring in areas that WFP staff cannot access due to insecurity. Support from the European Union Naval Force (EU NAVFOR) in the form of its naval escort to vessels and shipments belonging to WFP, as well as WFP time charter vessels, helped mitigate the threat of piracy off the Somali coast.

[1] The Logistics Cluster was activated in 2006 and deactivated in 2018 due to decreased demand.

[2] (Logistics Execution Support System)- system that allows WFP to track, monitor and manage all commodities online and in real-time, no matter where they are in the supply chain, up to the point of delivery to partners.



Annual Food Purchases for the Country (mt)

Commodity	Local	Regional/International	Total
Maize	1,500	500	2,000
Total	1,500	500	2,000
Percentage	75.0%	25.0%	

Annual Global Commodity Management Facility Purchases Received in Country (mt)

Commodity	Total
Corn Soya Blend	5,785
High Energy Biscuits	30
LNS	1,020
Ready To Use Supplementary Food	4,516
Sorghum/Millet	2,712
Split Peas	786
Vegetable Oil	352
Total	15,200

Implementation of Evaluation Recommendations and Lessons Learned

In 2018, WFP Somalia completed a Country Portfolio Evaluation (CPE) that assessed WFP's strategic positioning, the quality of and factors influencing WFP's decision making and the performance and results of portfolio activities over the 2012 -2017 period. The evaluation was timed to provide evidence to inform the design of the new WFP Somalia Interim Country Strategic Plan (ICSP). According to the evaluation, WFP had strategically positioned itself well to respond in its areas of its comparative advantage – emergency response, common services and preparedness activities – and in nutrition. The evaluation noted that WFP's portfolio was generally relevant to beneficiaries' needs and consistent with national policies at the federal and state levels, and that it had contributed to building capacity in food security analysis among national institutions.

Eight key recommendations were derived from the CPE: i) provide technical leadership in developing and piloting a national safety net programme; ii) develop a longer-term approach to assisting internally displaced persons (IDPs); iii) shift the primary objective of FFA and FFT activities to creating productive assets and livelihoods; iv) strengthen the integration of gender and protection considerations in programming; iv) improve the targeting of beneficiaries, including internally displaced persons; vi) engage in broader inter-agency dialogue for coordinating approaches to planning and implementing capacity-building efforts; vii) engage with the Ministry of Health on annual strategic planning and provide support to the integration of nutrition monitoring data into the Ministry's existing health management information system; and viii) position and evaluate the contribution of school meals as part of an inter-agency education strategy.

WFP adopted some of the recommendations in its 2018 operations and incorporated the rest in the design of the ICSP for implementation in 2019-2021. In partnership with UNICEF, WFP provided technical support to the government in development of a draft national social protection policy that includes the framework for a national

safety net programme. The draft document is expected to be presented to the Somali cabinet in early 2019. Under the ICSP, WFP will continue working with the government, donors and other humanitarian and development stakeholders on piloting a national social safety net, setting standards, testing methodologies and evaluating progress with a view to establishing an effective social safety net system. As part of its longer-term approach to addressing the needs of IDPs, WFP introduced a shock-responsive urban social safety net in 2018 that targets among other vulnerable groups, IDPs and the most vulnerable people in urban areas with limited or no livelihood opportunities. WFP also conducted a profiling survey to understand the demographic constitution and the unique needs of its beneficiaries under the urban safety net programme. To strengthen the integration of gender and protection in its programmes, WFP carried gender and protection training to its staff and partners in all Area Offices in Somalia, as well as in Nairobi. Implementation of the recommendations under the ICSP will involve working closely with government counterparts and core stakeholders while taking into consideration the availability of resources.

Based on audit recommendations concluded in 2017, WFP advanced its complaints and feedback mechanism system in 2018, to ensure swift management of cases derived from different monitoring sources (hotline/call centre, physical and third party) in a single repository. The system documents cases related to various cooperating partners and retailers, facilitating immediate management of their performance evaluation.

Over the course of the PRRO, WFP progressively improved the operations of the call centre, establishing a robust system for remote monitoring and enhanced accountability to affected populations. The call centre strengthened the provision of accurate and timely information to beneficiaries, leading to an increase in the number of beneficiaries using the Complaints and Feedback Mechanism (CFM) in 2018. Based on this achievement and learning, WFP will expand call centre resources in 2019. The expansion will not only ensure that all beneficiaries (women and men) have equal access to information regarding WFP assistance, but will also enhance systematic monitoring of WFP operations.

In 2018, WFP participated in a Multi-Stakeholder Cash-Based Response Evaluation commissioned by the Somalia Inter-Agency Cash Working Group. The evaluation reviewed the joint performance of humanitarian Cash-Based Assistance (CBA) in the 2017 drought response in Somalia. The evaluation also examined potential strategies for the sustainable use of CBA on a large scale in 2018 and beyond. The evaluation found that cash-based assistance was a relevant and appropriate response to the drought in Somalia and for longer-term resilience activities. The strong market system, widespread acceptance of CBA, organizational expertise, and presence of service providers all meant that CBA was feasible and, where acknowledged, security and fraud risks and costs could be well managed. The evaluation recommended increase in the use of cash-based assistance, observing that beneficiaries mostly preferred cash due to its flexibility and providing choice, while donors were increasingly encouraging its use. The evaluation also called for agencies to consider the use of more unrestricted cash where appropriate, noting that cash provided more flexibility for beneficiaries and allowed them to take advantage of the large and diverse cash-transfer economy. The recommendations derived from the evaluation will be incorporated in WFP's 2019-2021 programming.

Strengthening the Food Supply Chain through Support to Local Farmers

In recent years, Somalia has slowly but steadily made progress towards stability. In places where markets had failed due to insecurity, there is now bustling trade, and farmers have re-claimed their tools and are busy at work. Although production varies from one year to another, Somali farmers produce on average up to 40 percent of the country's cereal supply (maize and sorghum) each year.

Recognizing the opportunities brought by these changes, WFP has since 2013 partnered with the Ministry of Agriculture and FAO to support farmers from 10 cooperatives in the Lower Shabelle region of southern Somalia, to increase the quality of their produce and reduce post-harvest losses using modern storage techniques. Approximately 500 farmers from the cooperatives in Afgoye and Awdegele districts have received training from WFP on modern warehouse management techniques to keep grains free of contamination and pests, test maize for fitness for human consumption, and basic procurement procedures. The farmers have also received farm inputs (such as fertilizer) from FAO and equipment including modern storage units also known as cocoons from WFP.

This initiative has allowed Somali farmers to multiply the quantities of premium quality maize produced and sold to WFP. At the start of the project, WFP purchased only 200 mt of maize from farmers' cooperatives. The rest of the maize was contaminated with aflatoxin and did not meet minimum international standards. However, in subsequent years, through refresher training and continued support to the farmers, the quality of the maize produced has progressively increased.

Since 2013, WFP has purchased over 12,200 mt of high quality grade 1 maize from the same ten cooperatives. Due to the prevailing drought, WFP did not purchase maize from local farmers in 2017.

Somali farmers are now suppliers of high-quality maize and the local purchase initiative has strengthened the capacity of smallholder farmers to access reliable local and international markets where they can sell their surplus crops at competitive prices. Fadumo, a female farmer from Kulmis Farmers' Cooperative explains:

“Since my husband died I became the only one responsible for my family. WFP's local purchase programme is allowing me to be independent, taking care of my children and their education. They will not have to leave the country for a better future.”

Project Results

Activities and Operational Partnerships

The Port of Kismayo located in the Lower Juba region in southern Somalia is a strategic supply corridor for humanitarian agencies providing assistance in the southern regions of the country. The port also holds considerable potential for stimulating local commercial trade through enhanced and cost-efficient port operations. However, since the late 1980s, no significant investments have been made in the port, resulting in a lack of basic infrastructure that hampers port operations.

WFP launched Special Operation 201051 in June 2017 to support rehabilitation work at the port as well as strengthen the capacity of staff with the goal of improving the scale and efficiency of services at the port. The rehabilitation of the Kismayo port will also enable smallholder producers, farmer cooperatives and the private sector to sell their products in local and international markets, as well as increase the availability and variety of food and other items in the Kismayo and regional markets. To facilitate this, WFP focused on three main activities that would be implemented in three phases; a bathymetric survey [1], removal of shipwrecks, and training for port personnel.

In the first implementation phase, WFP conducted a bathymetric survey of the Kismayo port in 2017, to get an overview on the complexity and risks of removing the wrecks. The survey established the presence of seven shipwrecks in and around the Kismayo port waters, and identified for prioritization, three shipwrecks that were directly interfering with the safe navigation and berthing of vessels. The survey also provided information on the state of the approach channels to the port and scope for potential dredging and increasing the port draft.

In early 2018, WFP launched a Request for Proposal for the removal of the three prioritized wrecks in the Kismayo basin. The cost for removal of the three wrecks was found to be significantly higher than originally anticipated. Due to fund limitations, the proposed works were carefully evaluated and prioritized to focus on one shipwreck- the most critical one located next to the jetty. This led to a budget revision that increased the original budget to USD 2.5 million (up from the original USD 1.5 million).

The prioritized wreck required complex arrangements and specific approaches to ensure its safe removal. Consequently, the contractual process was extended, since the scope of the work and the technical specifications of the bid had to be revised, to ensure that WFP contracted a suitable company to do the work. With WFP transitioning to an Interim Country Strategic Plan (ICSP) in 2019, all activities under the special operation have been transferred to ICSP Strategic Result 4 on strengthening food systems through improved infrastructure.

[1] A bathymetric survey involves the study of the underwater topography of water bodies such as lakes, rivers and oceans so as to determine the depth (topography) of lake and ocean floors and produce a nautical chart to inform the safe use of the surveyed water bodies.

Results

The second and third phases of the operation were planned for 2018, during which WFP intended to remove the wrecks at the port and conduct training for port personnel respectively. However, this was not achieved due to resource limitations and the unforeseen complexity of removing the prioritized shipwreck. The poor condition of the port infrastructure, the lack of specialized equipment in Kismayo, security conditions, as well as the size, age, and location of the shipwrecks made it difficult to implement the wreck removal within the planned timeline.

Figures and Indicators

Data Notes

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Ships berth at the busy Kismayo Port in southern Somalia.

Project Indicators

Output Indicators

Output	Unit	Planned	Actual	% Actual vs. Planned
CRF SO5-SR8: Logistics Cluster				
Number of assessments/surveys conducted	assessment	1	1	100.0%
Number of staff trained	individual	20	-	-
Percentage increase in berthing capacity	%	100	-	-