



# WFP Somalia

## Country Brief

April 2019

World Food Programme

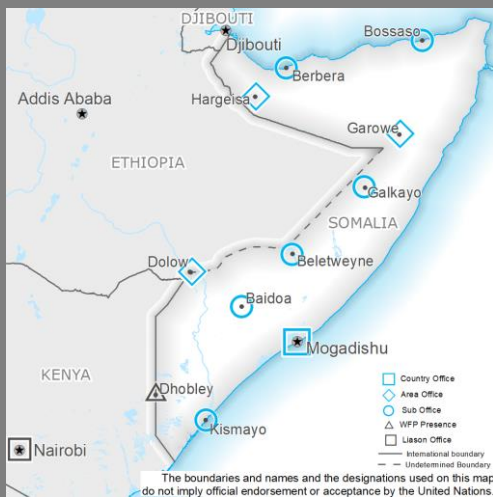
SAVING LIVES  
CHANGING LIVES



### Operational Context

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 recurrent food and nutrition crises, widespread insecurity, political instability, underdeveloped infrastructure, and natural hazards such as drought and floods. Over half of the country's population lives below the poverty line and gender inequality is the fourth highest globally, with high levels of gender-based violence, child marriage, and maternal mortality. In response to these challenges, the government adopted the National Development Plan (NDP) in 2016. The NDP focuses on recovery and resilience, economic recovery, inclusive politics and strengthening of national security as pathways to achieving long term development and wellbeing of the Somali people.

WFP Somalia Country Office has been operating from Nairobi since 1995 but transitioned to a Liaison Office in February 2015 when WFP re-opened the Somalia Country Office in Mogadishu for the first time in 20 years.



Population: **12.3 million**

Internally Displaced Persons (IDPs): **2.6 million**

People facing acute food crisis: **1.7 million** (IPC 3 & above, Jan-Jun 2019)

National Global Acute Malnutrition (GAM) rate: **12 percent (Serious)**

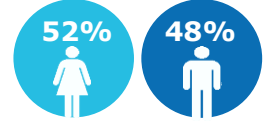
### In Numbers

**4,934 mt** of food assistance distributed

**USD 6.7 m** cash-based transfers made

**USD 260 m** six months (May-Oct 2019) net funding requirements

**1.3 m people assisted** in April 2019



### Operational Updates

- Somalia is facing another drought after two consecutive below-average rainy seasons. The Gu 2019 (April-June) rainfall season started late, with pronounced deficits by the end of April, and a poor rain forecast for the remaining part of the season. The situation is particularly alarming considering that the country is yet to recover from the impact of the prolonged 2016/17 drought.
- Lack of water and limited pasture have led to reduced herd sizes, poor livestock body conditions and low milk production in many parts of Somalia. The delayed and poor start of the Gu season has also shortened the length of the crop growing season in the south. Household expenditures have increased due to the rising cost of food and water, and social support networks are overstretched.
- Recovery is unlikely even if the rainfall performance improves at later stages of the season. As a result, further worsening of food security and nutrition outcomes is expected, with significant increases in livestock losses and population displacement. The latest projections point to a ten percent increase in the number of people facing acute food insecurity to 1.7 million through June and 2.2 million by September. This number will rise further if the remaining part of the season continues to yield below average rains.
- WFP plans to scale up its emergency food and nutrition assistance for at least seven months (June-December 2019) to meet the anticipated food gaps and prevent and treat malnutrition across the country. WFP will continue to support 125,000 urban poor and chronically food insecure people in Mogadishu with a predictable safety nets transfer. To safeguard the efforts made towards longer term food security, WFP will maintain its resilience activities alongside the emergency response.
- In April 2019, WFP reached **1.3 million people** with critical food and nutrition assistance including cash-based transfers worth USD 6.7 million. Over 432,000 mothers and children received nutrition assistance while 202,000 thousand people received support through the livelihoods programme.

Country Strategic Plan (2019-2021)

Total Requirement (in USD)	Allocated Contributions (in USD)	Six Month Net Funding Requirements (in USD)
336 m	211.7 m	260 m

Insecurity continues to be a challenge across Somalia, particularly in the Middle and Lower Shabelle regions and Mogadishu where intermittent road blockages continue to affect the smooth delivery of food. In April, the closure of the Mandera border affected food delivery in Dolow region as trucks transporting WFP food commodities from Kenya were stuck at the border for over two weeks. As a result, planned food assistance was not delivered to over 88,000 people.

Monitoring

In April, WFP conducted a baseline assessment for the relief (general food assistance) programme. Half of the assessed households were found to have acceptable food consumption scores (FSC) while 29 percent had poor food consumption. From the baseline assessment, households headed by a man and a woman as well as those headed by men had a better acceptable food consumption score compared to households headed by women. This points to a higher vulnerability among women-headed households.

Funding

To address the deterioration in the food and nutrition security and the increase in humanitarian needs due to the drought, WFP requires **USD 260 million** in the next six months (May to October 2019) to continue providing lifesaving food and nutrition assistance to the most vulnerable populations, including internally displaced persons (IDPs).

Donors

**ICSP:** USA, United Kingdom, China, Germany, Italy, Republic of Korea, Russia, Saudi Arabia, Lithuania, European Commission (ECHO), Japan, Multilateral, Canada, Sweden, Switzerland and UN CERF.

Strategic Result 1: Everyone has access to food

**Strategic Outcome 1:** Food and nutrition insecure people in areas affected by natural and man-made disasters have access to adequate and nutritious food, and specialized nutritious foods to meet their basic food and nutrition needs during and in the aftermath of a shock.

**Focus area:** Crisis Response

Activities:

- Provide unconditional assistance, specialized nutritious foods and gender-transformative nutrition messaging and counselling to crisis-affected people through well-coordinated food security and logistics during humanitarian responses.

Strategic Result 1: Everyone has access to food

**Strategic Outcome 2:** Food-insecure people in targeted areas have enhanced capacity to withstand shocks and stresses throughout the year.

**Focus area:** Resilience Building

Activities:

- Provide assistance and nutritional messaging to food-insecure people through reliable safety nets, including school meals.

Strategic Result 2: No one suffers from malnutrition

**Strategic Outcome 3:** Malnourished and food-insecure children, adolescent girls as well as pregnant and lactating women and girls and ART/TB-DOT clients in areas with persistently high rates of acute malnutrition have improved nutritional status throughout the year.

**Focus area:** Resilience Building

Activities:

- Provide specialized nutritious foods and nutrition messaging to children, adolescent girls, pregnant and lactating women and girls (PLWG) and HIV/TB clients to systematically treat and prevent malnutrition and to stimulate positive behaviour change.

Strategic Result 4: Sustainable Food Systems

**Strategic Outcome 4:** National institutions, private sector actors, smallholder farmers, and food-insecure and nutritionally vulnerable populations benefit from more resilient, inclusive and nutritious food systems by 2021.

**Focus area:** Resilience Building

Activities:

- Provide services, skills, assets and infrastructure for the rehabilitation and strengthening of food supply chains.

Strategic Result 5: Capacity Strengthening

**Strategic Outcome 5:** National institutions have strengthened policies, capacities and systems to support food-insecure and nutritionally vulnerable populations by 2021.

**Focus area:** Resilience Building

Activities:

- Provide technical support for the strengthening of national policies, capacities and systems.

Strategic Result 8: Enhance Global Partnership

**Strategic Outcome 6:** The humanitarian community has enhanced ability to reach and respond to needs throughout the year.

**Focus area:** Crisis Response

Activities:

- Provide air services for the humanitarian community