



WFP Somalia Country Brief August 2019



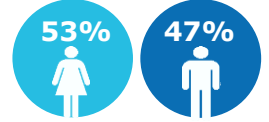
In Numbers

7,235 mt of food assistance distributed

USD 13.99m cash-based transfers made

USD 128.4 m six months (September 2019-February 2020) net funding requirements

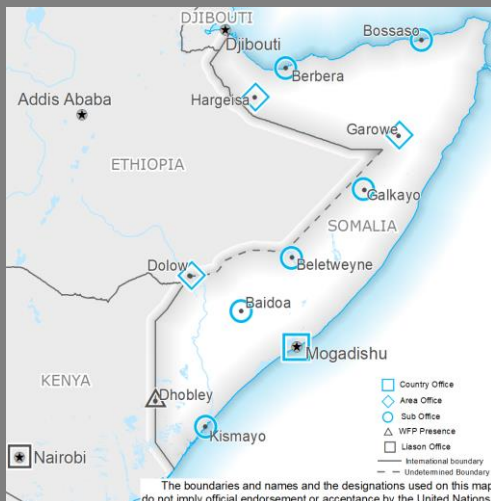
2.2 m people assisted
in August 2019



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.



Operational Updates

- The late and below-average performance of the 2019 Gu (April-June) rainy season has led to a significantly poor cereal harvest especially in southern Somalia (the country's main cropping region), where the cereal harvest was 68 percent below the long-term average. The poor rains have also affected livestock production among pastoralists across the country, many of whom are still struggling to restock after losing most of their animals in the 2016-2017 drought. Consequently, humanitarian needs remain high, with an estimated 2.1 million people expected to face critical levels of hunger between October to December 2019.
- Over 1 million children under the age of five are likely to face acute malnutrition through June 2020, including 178,400 who are likely to be severely malnourished. Areas of concern include internally displaced person (IDP) settlements in Beletweyne, Bosasso, Qardho, Galkayo, Baidoa and Mogadishu, as well as parts of Bari, Togdheer, Nugaal, Hiraan, Gedo, Bakool, Bay, Middle and Lower Shabelle and Juba regions. Malnutrition in Somalia is driven by several factors including food insecurity, poor health, and socio-cultural factors leading to poor infant and child feeding practices.
- In August, WFP assisted 2.2 million women, men and children in the communities most affected by acute food and nutrition insecurity throughout the country. Over half of the people reached received cash-based transfers worth USD 13.9 million. In addition, 544,000 pregnant and nursing women, and children aged 6-59 months received preventative and curative nutrition assistance, while 143,000 people received support through livelihoods programmes.
- The 2019 Deyr rains (October to December) are expected to be normal to above-average, with an increased risk of flooding and disruption in riverine areas. WFP is closely monitoring the situation as the current humanitarian situation could deteriorate if the rains do not perform as expected, or if the flooding is significant and widespread in the main cropping areas.

Population: **12.3 million**

Internally Displaced Persons (IDPs):
2.6 million

People facing acute food crisis: **1.2 million** (IPC 3 & above, Jul-Sept 2019)

National Global Acute Malnutrition (GAM) rate: **13.8 percent (Serious)**

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Country Strategic Plan (2019-2021)

Total Requirement (in USD)	Allocated Contributions (in USD)	Six Month Net Funding Requirements (in USD)
1.18 B	392.7 m	128.4 m

Strategic Result 1: Everyone has access to food

Strategic Outcome 1: Food and nutrition insecure people in areas affected by natural or human-caused 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:

- Provision of unconditional food and/or cash-based food 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 are better able to withstand shocks and stresses throughout the year.

Focus area: Resilience Building

Activities:

- Provision of conditional and unconditional food and/or cash-based food 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, 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:

- Provision of specialized nutritious foods and nutrition messaging to children, adolescent girls, pregnant and lactating women and girls (PLWG) and ART/TB-DOT 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:

- Provision of 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 for supporting food-insecure and nutritionally vulnerable populations by 2021.

Focus area: Resilience Building

Activities:

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

Strategic Result 8: Enhance Global Partnership

Strategic Outcome 6: The humanitarian community is better able to reach vulnerable people and respond to needs throughout the year.

Focus area: Crisis Response

Activities:

- Provision of air services for the humanitarian community

Monitoring

In August, WFP conducted a follow up survey to monitor the food security situation of people receiving relief assistance. Data was collected from 811 households in 13 regions spread across the most vulnerable regions in Somalia. Nearly half (48 percent) of assessed households reported acceptable food consumption scores (FSC), compared to 51 percent in May. There was a reduction in households with poor FSC (from 29 percent in May to 22 percent in August) indicating that WFP assistance was enabling households to access a variety of diversified and nutritious food frequently, contributing to improved food security situation.

Funding

WFP requires **USD 128.4 million** in the next six months (September 2019 to February 2020) 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, Canada, Sweden, Switzerland, Saudi Arabia, Somalia Humanitarian Fund (SHF) and UN CERF.