



World Food Programme

WFP Somalia Country Brief September 2019



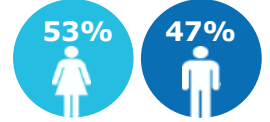
In Numbers

7,357 mt of food assistance distributed

USD 14 m cash-based transfers made

USD 118.7 m six months (October 2019-March 2020) net funding requirements

2.38 m people assisted in September 2019



Operational Updates

Most parts of Somalia remained dry during the Hagaa season except areas in the north-western and southern parts of the country that received seasonal Karaan/Hagaa rains. Livestock body conditions are deteriorating (as expected by the end of the dry season), and water availability is unevenly distributed across the country. As a result, limited livestock migration towards areas with pasture and water is taking place.

The poor 2019 Gu harvest has caused local cereal prices in the south to increase. Consequently, there is notable increase in the food Monthly Expenditure Basket (MEB) in the southern regions.

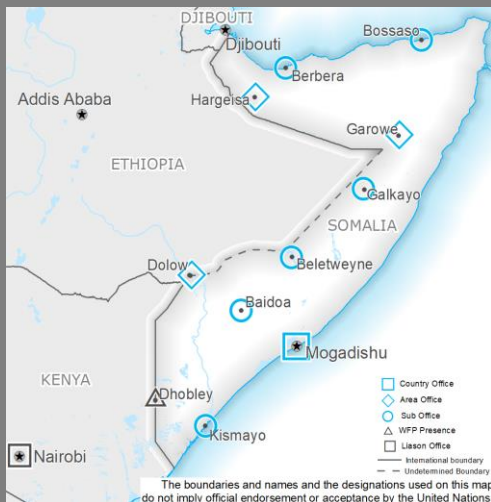
In early October, moderate rains are expected in northern areas as well as parts of the south and central regions bordering Ethiopia. The expected rains combined with already high-water levels in River Shabelle increase the risk of flooding in riverine areas. However, if the Deyr rains perform poorly, the food security situation will deteriorate further, with 2.1 million people expected to continue facing critical levels of hunger (Integrated Phase Classification [IPC] 3 and 4) between October and December 2019. WFP continues to monitor the situation closely.

In September, WFP assisted 2.38 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 nearly USD 14 million. In addition, 624,400 pregnant and nursing women, and children aged 6-59 months received preventative and curative nutrition assistance, while another 235,900 people received support through livelihoods programmes.

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: **1.2 million** (IPC 3 & above, Jul-Sept 2019)

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

Contact info: Delphine Dechaux (delphine.dechaux@wfp.org)

Country Director: Cesar Arroyo

Further information: www.wfp.org/countries/somalia

Country Strategic Plan (2019-2021)

Total Requirement (in USD)	Allocated Contributions (in USD)	Six Month Net Funding Requirements (in USD)
1.18 B	400.6 m	118.7 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

School Feeding Programme:

To support government capacity strengthening for school feeding, the System Approach to Better Education Results (SABER) exercise was initiated in September in Mogadishu, Somaliland and Puntland.

SABER is a government-led process that helps to build effective school feeding policies and systems. High level meetings with government officials were convened in those locations, following which the ministries in Somaliland and Puntland formed task force teams. Using an evidence-based approach, the task force teams will analyse existing school feeding policies and implementation to identify strengths and gaps. This will help foster policy dialogue among stakeholders and therefore assist the government in developing road maps for strengthening the school feeding policy environment, implementation as well as other capacity augmentation activities.

Social Protection:

In September 2019, the government of Somalia launched the first Somalia Social Protection Policy. This policy is a stepping stone towards reducing poverty and vulnerability for over half of the population living in extreme poverty in Somalia.

Monitoring

In September, WFP completed a follow-up survey on its food for assets (FFA) activities through mobile data collection. The survey sampled 615 households across 12 regions within Somalia. The objective was to find out the food security situation of beneficiaries who receive conditional assistance from WFP while engaging in creating assets for improved livelihoods. Compared to the baseline (four months earlier) the results indicate positive impacts of WFP's sustained humanitarian assistance. There was increased ability to meet food and other essential needs without engaging in coping strategies that deplete assets and reduce future productivity (emergency coping strategies) among the assessed households. Out of the assessed 615 households, only 9.3 percent applied emergency coping strategies compared to 21 percent at baseline.

Funding

WFP requires USD 118.7 million in the next six months (October 2019 to March 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.