



# WFP Somalia Country Brief

December 2020



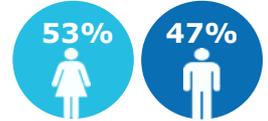
## In Numbers

USD 11 m cash-based transfers made

9,005 mt of food assistance distributed

USD 200.3 m six months net funding requirements representing **51 percent** of the total USD 393.4 m for the next six months (January-June 2021)

1.85 million people assisted in December 2020



## Operational Updates

In December, WFP distributed food assistance, including in-kind food comprising of cereals, fortified vegetable oil, pulses and specialized nutritious food) and/or cash-based transfers (CBT) to 1.85 million people affected by crisis through a combination of nutrition (631,000), relief (1 million), livelihoods (33,600) and social safety net programmes (110,000). The assistance enabled them to meet their daily minimum food and nutrition requirements.

The desert locust invasion, the social-economic impact of COVID-19 and widespread flooding were the key drivers of acute food insecurity throughout 2020. Sustained humanitarian assistance and Government support enabled the most food insecure people to access food and other basic needs.

### Nutrition Activities

Adequate nutrient intake is essential to good nutrition and health. Pregnant and lactating women and girls (PLWGs) and children aged 6-59 months continue to suffer undernutrition in Somalia. Over 17 percent of children are stunted, and anaemia is a severe public health problem affecting 43 percent of children aged 6-59 months and 47 percent of pregnant women ([Somalia National Micronutrient Survey 2020](#)). WFP, through its treatment of moderate acute malnutrition and prevention of acute malnutrition programmes, reached 631,000 PLWGs and children with specialised nutritious foods (SNF). The assistance increased availability, access and consumption of nutritious diets, helping targeted beneficiaries to meet their daily nutrient requirements.

### CBT Assistance

Online food ordering via the WFP e-Shop, an innovative digital marketplace, continue to empower communities in Somalia and to support the local economy. In December, more than 60,000 beneficiaries enrolled in WFP's CBT assistance ordered items for home delivery through WFP contracted delivery agent. The e-Shop has 108,300 registered users, 1,200 retailers and has supported more than 740,000 beneficiaries since April 2018; 120,000 home deliveries were carried out totalling USD 11 million of E-sales.

WFP has taken a leading role in supporting the Government's social protection and safety net agenda for Somalia. Through a Government-led rural safety net programme, alongside WFP's urban safety net programme, WFP distributed USD 12.6 million cash entitlements to 549,000 poor people in rural and urban areas through mobile money transfer for the October-December quarter.

## 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 revised the 2016 National Development Plan and adopted the ninth National Development Plan (NDP-9, 2020-2024) in December 2019. The NDP-9 has four pillars encompassing security and rule of law, inclusive politics, economic development, and social development as pathways to achieving long-term development and wellbeing of the Somali people.

In February 2015 WFP re-opened the Somalia Country Office in Mogadishu for the first time in 20 years. WFP has presence across Somalia with 12 operational offices, that ensure close engagement with our partners.



Population: **12.3 million**

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

People facing acute food crisis: **2.1 million** (IPC 3 & above, Oct-Dec 2020)

National Global Acute Malnutrition (GAM) rate: **11.8 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)
<b>1.88 b</b>	<b>918.1 m</b>	<b>200.3 m</b>

### 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 2: No one suffers from malnutrition

**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.
- Provision of unconditional cash transfers in rural areas to targeted poor and vulnerable households

### Strategic Result 3: Achieve food security

**Strategic Outcome 3:** Malnourished and food-insecure children, adolescent girls, PLWG 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
- Provision of on-demand services for the humanitarian community
- Provision of common services through the Logistics Cluster

## Desert Locust Response

The desert locust invasion, [destroying crops and pasture](#), continues to threaten livelihoods of farming communities. Through a shock responsive component of the safety net project, WFP provides reliable quarterly CBTs to 210,000 people in locust-affected districts.

## Tropical Cyclone Response

The aftermath of the [tropical cyclone Gati](#), which made a landfall on 22 November in Bari region in Puntland, affected about 180,000 people. In response, WFP provided 589 mt of food items to 20,460 people in Bossaso District in December.

## Country Strategic Plan (CSP) 2022-2025

WFP initiated Government-led talks with key ministries, community groups, NGOs and fellow UN agencies to draft a zero hunger strategy for 2022-2025. The consultations reflect WFP's commitment to align with and support the national development agenda. In the first quarter of 2021, WFP will continue its consultations with the Government ministries, national institutions, UN partner (including FAO and UNICEF) as well as donors to refine its multi-year strategy.

## 2030 Agenda

To support the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development, the United Nations (UN) Country Team completed the Somalia UN Sustainable Development Cooperation Framework (UNSDCF) for 2021-2025, pledging the Government and the UN to work together to achieve peace, stability, and prosperity for all Somalis. WFP led the Country Common Analysis, documenting the country's progress towards the 2030 Agenda, risks, gaps and challenges, and participated in developing Pillar 3 (economic development) and 4 (social protection) and in formulating outcomes and the related Theory of Change.

## Challenges

The combination of the political polarisation, which is catalysing mobilisation for the capacity of violence along clan lines, potential reduction in the capacity and coherence of Somali Security Forces supported by the US forces and increased Al Shabaab operations present contextual security and access risks that require continuous monitoring and consideration in programming and programme delivery.

## Donors (in alphabetical order)

Canada, China, Denmark, European Commission (ECHO), Federal Government of Somalia, France, South Africa, Germany USA, Italy, Japan, Lithuania, Republic of Korea, Russia, Saudi Arabia, Saudi Arabia, Somalia Humanitarian Fund (SHF), Sweden, Switzerland, UN CERF and United Kingdom.