



WFP Somalia Country Brief

May 2021



Operational Context

Somalia continues to make progress to recover from underdevelopment, instability and decades of conflict since the re-establishment of the Federal Government in 2012. However, climatic shocks combined with gender inequality, protracted displacements and persistent conflict continue to exacerbate food insecurity. Inadequate water and sanitation, poor hygiene practices and chronic food insecurity are among the factors contributing to health and nutrition challenges. Furthermore, systemic problems such as limited investments, infrastructure and regulatory frameworks, as well as climate variability, limit the potential of Somalia's food systems to ensure access to and consumption of nutritious food. In response, the Government of Somalia launched the Ninth National Development Plan (NDP 9) in December 2019, laying out the national vision for sustainable development (2020-2024). In October 2020, the United Nations Sustainable Development Cooperation Framework (2021-2025) was signed, outlining the United Nations' response to the peace and development priorities of NDP 9 and its collective contribution to the realization of the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development of Somalia.

WFP ensures close engagement with partners through its Somalia country office in Mogadishu and 12 operational offices across Somalia.



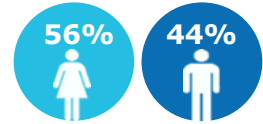
In Numbers

US\$ 19.3 million assistance delivered through cash-based transfers

3,831 mt of in-kind food assistance distributed

US\$ 237.4 million six months net funding requirements representing 59 percent of the total **US\$ 403 million** for the next six months (June-November 2021)

2.5 million people assisted in May 2021



Operational Updates

Dual climate-induced shocks impacting food security: The [2021 Gu rainy season delayed](#), with most parts of the country experiencing erratic and poorly distributed rainfall. However, areas like Beletweyne of Hiran region and Jowhar in Middle Shabelle experienced heavy rains causing riverine and flash flooding, affecting [400,000 people in 14 districts, of whom 100,000](#) were displaced. [Swathes of farmland](#) were destroyed, together with water, sanitation and health infrastructure. All of this came shortly after the Federal Government, in consultation with the humanitarian community, [declared drought](#) on 25 April.

There are also concerns over a possible resurgent desert locust infestation, especially in [northern Somalia](#), due to the favourable breeding environment created by the rains. Combined with an anticipated poor Gu cereal harvest, these events are expected to impact the already poor food security situation. Sustained humanitarian assistance will be required to save the lives of [2.83 million](#) acutely food insecure people from July-September 2021.

In response to the increasing needs, WFP is preparing a budget revision to increase relief assistance to reach 2 million acutely food insecure people in 2021.

WFP's food assistance is helping vulnerable communities meet their food and nutrition needs. In May, WFP provided a food basket comprising of cereals, fortified vegetable oil, pulses and/or cash-based transfers to 2.5 million people, overall. In support of the treatment and prevention of acute malnutrition, 446,000 pregnant and nursing women and girls, and children aged 6-59 months who were malnourished or at risk of becoming malnourished – received specialized nutritious food. Through rural and urban safety nets programmes, 891,000 vulnerable people across Somalia received cash-based transfers between March and May. WFP provides these transfers to enrolled beneficiaries on a quarterly basis, enabling them to better meet their needs.

Crisis-affected people received food assistance through in kind or cash-based transfers. In response to flooding and drought, WFP provided food assistance to 78,000 flood-affected people in the Beletweyne and Jowhar districts of Hiran region, and 15,000 drought-affected people in

Population: **14.3 million** (NDP 9)

Internally displaced persons (IDPs): **2.9 million**

People facing acute food crisis: **2.83 million** (IPC 3 & above, Apr-Sep)

National global acute malnutrition rate: **11.8 percent (serious)**age

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

Country Director: Cesar Arroyo

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

WFP Country Strategy

Country strategic plan (2019-2021)

Total requirement (in US\$)	Allocated contributions (in US\$)	Six-month net funding requirements (in US\$)
1.88 b	1 b	237.4 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 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

Afmadow district in Lower Juba region. Another 41,000 people in districts most affected by locust infestation received cash-based transfers, largely in Somaliland and Puntland. The Logistics Cluster supported service provision by transporting 84 mt of flood-response cargo for four partners to five flood-affected locations.

Meeting the food and nutrition needs of schoolchildren. In May, 51,800 schoolchildren in 210 WFP-supported schools received breakfast and lunch prepared at their schools. The meals were prepared from diverse, nutritious, and locally purchased fresh foods. In Somaliland, an additional 26,500 schoolchildren in 154 WFP-supported schools received vouchers for take-home rations, due to COVID-19-related school closures in force since 13 April.

WFP continues to empower its beneficiaries of cash-based transfers with flexibility and control over food choices.

Through the WFP e-Shop – a digital marketplace - 195,000 beneficiaries ordered items online from WFP's network of contracted retailers, to be delivered to their homes by WFP-contracted delivery agents. The e-Shop allow beneficiaries to compare prices across retailers and decide what to buy, providing them greater value for their cash. At the same time, by connecting beneficiaries directly to local businesses, WFP's e-Shop is supporting the local economy. In May, e-Sales totalling US\$ 1.9 million were made. The cumulative e-Sale value since the inception of e-Shop in 2018 stands at US\$ 22 million.

Door-step delivery of relief food is improving access to services for vulnerable beneficiaries. Using the e-Shop home delivery model, WFP delivered 46 mt of in-kind relief food (sorghum, pulses, rice) to 537 households in Middle Shabelle's Warsheikh and Elma'an districts.

Funding

To continue providing lifesaving food and nutrition assistance to the most vulnerable populations, including internally displaced persons, WFP needs additional funding of US\$ 237.4 million for the period June-November 2021.

Donors

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