

# WFP Somalia Country Brief June 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 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.



Population: 14.3 million (NDP 9)

Internally displaced persons: (IDPs): 2.9 million

People facing acute food crisis: **2.83 million** (IPC3 & above, Apr-Sep)

National global acute malnutrition rate: 11.8 percent (serious)

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#### In Numbers

**US\$ 16.43 million** assistance delivered through cash-based transfers

6,473 mt of in-kind food assistance distributed

**US\$ 210.3** million six months net funding requirements representing 52 percent of the total **US\$ 402.5** million for the next six months (July-December 2021)

2.78 million people assisted in June 2021





## **Operational Updates**

Food Security Outlook: According to Food Security and Nutrition Analysis Unit (FSNAU) preliminary estimates, an estimated 5.9 million people need humanitarian assistance in Somalia, of whom 2.9 million people are displaced from their homes. The food security situation has been worsened by a recent multi-seasonal drought and flood disasters, the continued threat of locust infestation on crops and pasture in Somaliland and Puntland as well as the compounded impacts of COVID-19, political tensions and two consecutive below-average rainfall seasons in late 2020 and early 2021 affecting crop and livestock production. These factors continue to pose a major threat to the food security of poor Somalis resulting to an increase in the acutely food insecure population in need of emergency food assistance to 2.83 million in Somalia through to September. Subsequently, sustained, and largescale humanitarian assistance is required till the end of the year to ensure vulnerable Somalis meet their food and nutrition needs.

In response to the increasing needs, WFP prepared a budget revision which was approved on 9 July 2021 to increase the yearly emergency relief assistance to 2.4 million (from 2 million) acutely food insecure people in the second half of the year.

WFP's food assistance is helping vulnerable communities meet their food and nutrition needs. In

June, WFP provided a food basket comprising of cereals, fortified vegetable oil, pulses and/or cash-based transfers to 2.78 million people, overall. In support of the treatment and prevention of acute malnutrition, 519,000 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, one million vulnerable people across Somalia received cash-based transfers between January and June. WFP provides these transfers to enrolled beneficiaries on a quarterly basis, enabling them to better meet their needs.

WFP and the Government of Somalia have prioritized studies to better understand the entire delivery chain for the national safety net programmes, from the point of registration till the registered beneficiary can access multiple benefits. These include a financial regulatory framework analysis to understand contextual

## **WFP Country Strategy**

Country strategic plan (2019-2021)		
Total requirement (in US\$)	Allocated contributions (in US\$)	Six-month net funding requirements (in US\$)
1.98 b	1.08 b	210.3 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 wellcoordinated 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

constraints and opportunities for optimizing cash-based transfers, a user journey analysis to identify constraints and opportunities for digital and financial inclusion for users of mobile money transfers and a gender analysis that focuses on the women's economic empowerment aspect of the cash transfers. WFP is also carrying out a transition readiness assessment for its urban safety nets programme.

Crisis-affected people received food assistance through in kind or cash-based transfers. In response to flooding and drought, WFP provided food assistance to 104,000 flood-affected people in the Beletweyne and Bulo-Burte districts of Hiran region and Jowhar and Balad of Middle Shabelle region. Additionally, 22,000 drought-affected people in Afmadow district in Lower Juba region. Another 43,000 people in districts most affected by locust infestation received cash-based transfers across Somalia. The Logistics Cluster supported service provision by transporting 154 mt of flood-response cargo for four partners to seven flood-affected locations.

In June, WFP contracted 39 additional retailers in Mogadishu and Dolow to support increased caseload as a result of flood and drought response.

WFP continues to empower its beneficiaries of cashbased transfers with flexibility and control over food choices. Through the WFP e-Shop – a digital marketplace - 280,000 beneficiaries ordered items online from WFP's network of contracted retailers, to be delivered to their homes by WFP-contracted delivery agents. In June, e-Sales totalling US\$ 8,353 were made. Using the e-Shop home delivery model, WFP delivered relief in kind food assistance to 27,408 beneficiaries in Warshiekh and Elma'an districts of Middle Shabelle.

**Capacity Strengthening**: In June, WFP collaborated with Ministry of Health and Ministry of Education at Federal level and Jubaland state to undertake food safety trainings for cooks and support staff in supported schools. Trainings were conducted in 13 schools in Banadir region and 46 schools in Jubaland state. The target schools have developed action plans that will guide implementation of food safety measures discussed for the school feeding programme.

# **Funding**

To prevent worse food security outcomes and continue providing lifesaving food and nutrition assistance to the most vulnerable populations, including internally displaced persons, WFP needs additional funding of US\$ 210.3 million for the period July-December 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.