



WFP Somalia Country Brief September 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.



Population: **15.7 million** (UN)

Internally displaced persons (IDPs):
2.9 million

People facing acute food crisis: **3.5 million** (IPC 3 & above, Oct-Dec)

National global acute malnutrition rate: **11.1 percent (serious)**

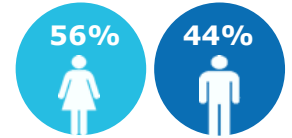
In Numbers

USD 16.8 million assistance delivered through cash-based transfers

5,021 mt of in-kind food assistance distributed

USD 242.7 million net funding requirements representing **59 percent** of the total **USD 411.8 million** for the next six months (October 2021 – March 2022)

2.4 million people assisted in September 2021



Operational Updates

- Sustained humanitarian assistance is required till the end of 2021. This will help an estimated **3.5 million** people who are struggling to feed themselves or face the depletion of their livelihood assets to meet their food and nutrition needs. *Gu*, the main cropping season in Somalia (April-June), was deficient this year leading to a below-average cereal harvest, compared to the 1995-2020 average. A third consecutive poor rainfall season is predicted in October-December 2021. Compounded with the impacts of desert locust infestation and COVID-19, this will likely worsen the already poor food security situation.
- WFP is responding to the increasing needs. Between October-December, WFP plans to assist **2.1 million people** through relief assistance monthly, while sustaining nutrition, safety net and livelihood interventions for a further **2.1 million** poor people for improved food security.
- In September, WFP provided life-saving food assistance helping **1.4 million** people in communities most affected by food insecurity to meet their minimum food and nutrition needs. Of these, **30,700** people received cash-based transfers in districts most affected by desert locust infestation.
- WFP increased the availability of diverse and nutritious food for the prevention and treatment of acute malnutrition. An estimated, **567,000** pregnant and lactating women and girls (PLWG), and children aged 6-59 months (under 5) who were malnourished or at risk of becoming malnourished received **2,000 mt** of nutritious food alongside social behaviour change communication across the Country. This assistance helped them to meet their basic nutrition requirements while encouraging improved practices on diet diversity.
- To enhance the capacity and to build skills for early identification, referral and management of acute malnutrition and prevention of malnutrition, WFP trained 44 Ministry of Health (MOH) staff in Garowe. They were trained on integrated management of acute malnutrition and how to use the WFP's beneficiary and transfer management platform (SCOPE). The capacity created will

WFP Country Strategy

Country strategic plan (2017-2021)

Total requirement (in USD)	Allocated contributions (in USD)	Six-month net funding requirements (in USD)
1.98 b	1.11 b	242.7 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 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

enable MOH to implement WFP-supported nutrition programmes through mother-to-child health and nutrition activities in ten health facilities.

- To influence positive attitudes and practices in proper nutrition, health and hygiene, WFP trained 207 headteachers, teachers and community education committee members in 69 schools in Jubaland. They will train boys, girls and teachers on the same, in their respective schools.
- WFP supported the government's social protection measures by providing over **1.1 million** targeted poor with quarterly cash-based transfers (CBT), enabling them to meet their food and nutrition needs. The assistance is part of the rural and urban safety net.
- Asset creation activities and training build capacities of individuals, households and communities to manage shocks and stressors that threaten food security, nutrition and wellbeing. Approximately **133,200 people** received food assistance through cash vouchers while rehabilitating e.g. community soil and water conservation assets or attending training to build their skills for future employability.
- WFP is supporting the Federal Government of Somalia to develop a national school feeding policy through a consultative process. A first draft was shared with stakeholders across states for feedback with the objective to finalise the policy by the end of October 2021.
- WFP is supporting efforts to enhance the performance and sustainability of food systems in Somalia. It co-led the Pre-Food System Summit dialogues in the lead-up to the Global Food Systems Summit. The state of food systems in Somalia, pathways to build their resilience, and the government's commitment to creating an enabling food systems environment that meets the food needs of the population were discussed.

Funding

- To prevent deteriorating food security outcomes and to continue providing lifesaving food and nutrition assistance to the most vulnerable populations, including internally displaced persons, WFP needs additional funding of **USD 242.7 million** for the period October 2021-March 2022.

Donors

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