



WFP Somalia Country Brief

February 2022



Operational Context

Somalia has an estimated 15.8 million people. Poverty is widespread, with 7 of 10 Somalis living on less than USD 1.90 a day. Recurrent climate-induced shocks, insecurity, protracted conflicts, environmental degradation, limited investments, and poor infrastructure continue to impact food systems, hindering availability and access to nutritious foods and adequate nutrient intake. Malnutrition is driven by chronic food insecurity, poor infant and young child feeding practices, diseases, limited access to clean water, sanitation, and health. While social protection is evolving, scale and coverage remains low. The school gross enrolment rate is low (32 percent) in primary school and drop-out rates are high and prevalent nationally.

The Government's 2020-2024 National Development Plan (NDP) addresses poverty and food security, among other priorities. The United Nations Sustainable Development Cooperation Framework (2021–2025) responds to the NDP peace and development priorities. WFP has reflected these concerns in its 2022-2025 country strategic plan to support the achievement of goals by the Government.

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



Population: 15.8 million (World Bank)	Internally displaced persons (IDPs): 2.9 million
People facing acute food crisis: 2.4 million (IPC 3 & above)	National global acute malnutrition rate: 13 percent (serious)

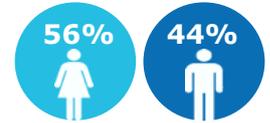
In Numbers

USD 20 million assistance delivered through cash-based transfers

6,066 mt of in-kind food assistance distributed

USD 185.7 million net funding requirements representing **48 percent** of the total **USD 385 million** for the next six months (March-August 2022)

2.2 million people assisted in February 2021



Operational Updates

- The severity of food insecurity has rapidly worsened in Somalia since the start of the dry season in January. Over 4.1 million people are facing crisis-level or worse acute food insecurity (IPC Phase 3 and above) between February and June 2022 related to the ongoing drought. More than 1.4 million children under the age of 5 are projected to be acutely malnourished by the end of 2022, with nearly 329,500 severely malnourished. Acute malnutrition is already at critical levels in many areas of southern and central Somalia.
- The impact of the drought is worsening. An immediate scale-up of food, water, and nutrition relief assistance is needed. WFP plans to scale-up relief assistance to reach 2.5 million people by June 2022. Sustained humanitarian assistance, alongside improved humanitarian access to conflict affected areas, is vital to prevent the loss of lives and livelihoods and to avert the risk of Famine (IPC Phase 5). WFP is coordinating and prioritizing with other actors to ensure food and nutrition assistance reaches those most in need.
- Overall, WFP provided food and nutrition assistance to **2.2 million beneficiaries** in February, **1.4 million** received lifesaving assistance. WFP and partners distributed **6,066 mt** of food and disbursed **USD 20 million** cash-based transfers (CBT). The assistance reached people who were most affected by acute food and nutrition insecurity.
- To ensure that the most vulnerable have the requisite capital and knowledge to protect their lives and livelihoods, in March, WFP launched an anticipatory action intervention in the Xudur and Waajid districts of Bakool region, two of the areas hardest hit by drought. Targeted 118,000 people will receive CBT through a scale-up of a national Safety Net for Human Capital Project; and a public information campaign through local radio, on practical measures to mitigate the impact of drought.

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WFP Country Strategy

Country strategic plan (2022-2025)		
Total requirement (in USD)	Allocated contributions (in USD)	Six-month net funding requirements (in USD)
1.94 b	277.6 m	185.7 m

Strategic result 1: Everyone has access to food

Strategic outcome 1: Food-insecure and nutrition-insecure people, in disaster-affected areas, have access to adequate and nutritious food and specialized nutritious foods that meet their basic food and nutritional needs, during and in the aftermath of shocks.

Focus area: Crisis response

Activities:

- Provide integrated food and nutritional assistance to crisis-affected people.

Strategic result 1: Everyone has access to food

Strategic outcome 2: Vulnerable people in targeted areas have improved nutrition and resilience, and benefit from inclusive access to integrated basic social services, shock-responsive safety nets, and enhanced national capacity to build human capital, all year round.

Focus area: Resilience building

Activities:

- Provide conditional and unconditional food and/or cash-based food assistance and nutrition-sensitive messaging to food-insecure people through reliable safety nets, including HGSF.
- Provide an integrated nutrition support and malnutrition prevention and treatment package to targeted vulnerable people.

Strategic result 4: Food systems are sustainable

Strategic outcome 3: National institutions, private sector, smallholder farmers, and food-insecure and nutritionally vulnerable populations in Somalia benefit from climate-smart, productive, resilient, inclusive, and nutritious food systems by 2030.

Focus area: Resilience building

Activities:

- Provide an integrated package of livelihood support activities, services, skills, assets and infrastructure to households and communities to strengthen their resilience and food systems.

Strategic result 5: Countries have strengthened capacity to implement the SDGs

Strategic outcome 4: National institutions and government agencies in Somalia benefit from strengthened capacities, policies, and systems by 2025.

Focus area: Resilience building

Activities:

- Provide technical support to national and subnational actors that strengthens capacities to develop and implement peacebuilding, hunger-reducing national policies.

Strategic result 8: Enhance Global Partnership

Strategic outcome 5: The humanitarian community in Somalia is better able to reach vulnerable people and respond to needs, throughout the year.

Focus area: Crisis response

Activities:

- Provide air transport services (passengers and light cargo) to the humanitarian community.
- Provide mandated logistics services to the humanitarian community through the coordination mechanism of the Logistics Cluster.
- Provide on-demand services to the humanitarian community.

- WFP provided specialized nutritious foods to **631,000 pregnant and lactating women and girls and children aged 6-59 months** to prevent and treat moderate acute malnutrition. Through the homegrown school feeding, WFP assisted **116,000 boys and girls** in 369 schools. Schoolchildren received hot meals prepared from locally sourced diverse and nutritious foods, helping them meet their food and nutrition needs.
- 2021 *Deyr* crop production was poor, resulting in the third lowest *Deyr* harvest since 1995 in southern Somalia. Through the WFP project, Supporting Resilient Smallholder Farming Systems, 7,500 farmers in Jowhar and Beletweyne districts received household hermetic grain storage bags and household metal grain silos with the capacity to store 600 kg of grains per household. Farmers will safely store their produce for consumption and sale. Another 17,000 people received CBTs to meet their immediate food needs while engaging in livelihood activities through rehabilitating or constructing community productive assets.
- The **United Nations Humanitarian Air Service** supported 48 partners (humanitarian community and government) by transporting 567 passengers and 172 mt of cargo to 18 field locations in Somalia. Part of the passengers were on an interagency assessment mission to Jowhar district. The **Logistics Cluster** facilitated transportation of 193 mt of cargo on behalf of partners and government to Kismayo, Wajid and Beletweyne districts as part of the drought response. The Cluster coordinated biweekly information sharing meetings with 11 partners and produced seven information products.

Funding

- WFP needs urgent funding support to meet growing needs in Somalia. The funding gap for the next six months stands at **USD185.7 million**. Without additional confirmed contributions, 2.5 million food insecure people will not receive relief cash transfers from April. Nutrition interventions are also critically underfunded, forcing WFP to reallocate resources from nutrition prevention to treatment. Despite these measures, WFP anticipates a shortfall from July for nutrition treatment programmes.

Donors

Canada, China, Denmark, European Commission (ECHO & INTPA), Federal Government of Somalia, Finland, France, Germany, Italy, Japan, Norway, Republic of Korea, Russia, Saudi Arabia, Somalia Humanitarian Fund (SHF), Sweden, Switzerland, UN CERF, United Arab Emirates, United Kingdom, USA.