



WFP Somalia Country Brief

April 2022



Operational Context

Somalia has an estimated population of 15.8 million. Poverty is widespread, with seven out of ten 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.



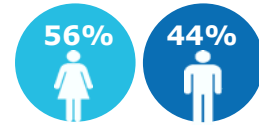
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|---|--|
| Population: 15.8 million (World Bank) | Internally displaced persons (IDPs): 2.9 million |
| People facing acute food crisis: 6 million (IPC 3 & above) | National global acute malnutrition rate: 13 percent (serious) |

In Numbers

USD 36.7 million delivered through cash-based transfers

1,774 mt of in-kind food assistance distributed

USD 278.9 million net funding requirements representing **61 percent** of the total **USD 456.3 million** for the next six months (May-October 2022)



3.4 million people assisted in April 2021

Operational Updates

- The late rainfall received in April has minimized water stress levels in parts of the country. However, the cumulative temporal distribution of rainfall is not sufficient to break the drought cycle. As a result, the continuing drought has affected people's vulnerability levels leading to acute food insecurity, poor nutrition outcomes and a risk of famine. Affected people are now adopting crisis coping strategies for survival; these reduce future productivity and prolong eventual recovery.
- WFP and the FAO-managed Food Security and Nutrition Analysis Unit are conducting an Integrated Follow-up Food Security and Nutrition Assessment in 12 drought hotspots. The follow-up will assess the nutrition, mortality, and food security situation. It will confirm famine conditions, considering deteriorating drought conditions, high food prices, and the influx of internally displaced persons, and inform emergency response efforts. Data collection and analysis is ongoing and preliminary results will be out later in May.
- In April, to make sure that food and nutrition assistance reached the most in need, WFP undertook a prioritization exercise focusing on people in IPC 3 and above, districts with critical global acute malnutrition rates and newly displaced populations.

WFP provided food and nutrition assistance to **3.4 million** newly displaced people, new arrival refugees and people in IPC 3 and above - 90 percent received cash-based transfers estimated at **USD 36.7 million**, and the rest received **1,777 mt of in-kind food**. WFP reached **1.7 million** most needy people through emergency food assistance with the aim to avert loss of life. Of these, **112,000 people** were supported in the Bakool region, a region at risk of famine, through anticipatory action interventions to help people prepare better for the anticipated below-average rainfall during the *Gu-2022* cropping season.

- As household food consumption gaps widen, **acute malnutrition is at Critical level** in southern and central Somalia. To support the malnourished and

WFP Country Strategy

Country strategic plan (2022-2025)

| Total requirement (in US\$) | Allocated contributions (in US\$) | Six-month net funding requirements (in US\$) |
|-----------------------------|-----------------------------------|--|
| 1.94 b | 379.7 m | 278.9 m |

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| <p>Strategic result 1: Everyone has access to food</p> <p>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.</p> <p>Focus area: <i>Crisis response</i></p> <p>Activities:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Provide integrated food and nutritional assistance to crisis-affected people. |
| <p>Strategic result 1: Everyone has access to food</p> <p>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.</p> <p>Focus area: <i>Resilience building</i></p> <p>Activities:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> 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. |
| <p>Strategic result 4: Food systems are sustainable</p> <p>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.</p> <p>Focus area: <i>Resilience building</i></p> <p>Activities:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Provide an integrated package of livelihood support activities, services, skills, assets and infrastructure to households and communities to strengthen their resilience and food systems. |
| <p>Strategic result 5: Countries have strengthened capacity to implement the SDGs</p> <p>Strategic outcome 4: National institutions and government agencies in Somalia benefit from strengthened capacities, policies, and systems by 2025.</p> <p>Focus area: <i>Resilience building</i></p> <p>Activities:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Provide technical support to national and subnational actors that strengthens capacities to develop and implement peacebuilding, hunger-reducing national policies. |
| <p>Strategic result 8: Enhance Global Partnership</p> <p>Strategic outcome 5: The humanitarian community in Somalia is better able to reach vulnerable people and respond to needs, throughout the year.</p> <p>Focus area: <i>Crisis response</i></p> <p>Activities:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> 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. |

those at risk of malnourishment, WFP provided specialized nutritious foods to **285,000 pregnant and lactating women and girls, children aged 6-59 months, and malnourished TB/HIV patients** to prevent and treat moderate acute malnutrition.

- Over **400,000** learners in Somalia are at risk of dropping out of school as drought intensifies, wiping out households' livelihoods. In Jubaland and Galmudug States, over **80 schools** are already closed, and 97 are near closure. In April, WFP supported **81,600 boys and girls across Somalia**, providing daily school meals that keeps children in school. The WFP Home Grown School Feeding programme is keeping schoolchildren in class as none of the 369 WFP-supported schools have closed because of the impact of drought.
- Under the Supporting Resilient Smallholder Farming Systems project, in Beletweyne, **71 smallholder women farmers** received training on digital and financial literacy skills. The training aims at building the capacity of women farmers as lead farmers. WFP also trained seven government extension workers and cooperating partner agronomists in aflatoxin contamination testing. The trained workers will use the knowledge and skills to lead spot-check grain testing for aflatoxin and build Government capacity to promote food safety and grain quality.
- The United Nations Humanitarian Air Service supported 43 **partners** (humanitarian community and Government) by transporting **666 passengers** and **146 mt** of cargo to **16 field locations** in Somalia. The **Logistics Cluster** facilitated the transportation of **83 mt** of items on behalf of the partners and the Government to **10 field locations**.

Funding

- WFP needs urgent funding support to meet growing needs in Somalia. The funding gap for the next six months stands at **USD 278.9 million**. The emergency food assistance activity under Strategic Outcome 1 accounts for **84 percent** of the funding gap. This means, without additional confirmed contributions, **2.2 million food insecure people** will not receive relief assistance in the coming months. Nutrition interventions are also critically underfunded, forcing WFP to prioritize treatment to prevention.

Donors

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