



World Food Programme

WFP Somalia Country Brief

May 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.

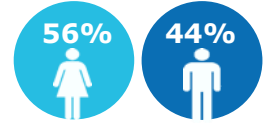
The Government's 2020-2024 National Development Plan (NDP) addresses poverty and food security, among other priorities. The United Nations Sustainable Development Cooperation Framework (2021–2025) responds to the NDP peace and development priorities. WFP has reflected these concerns in its 2022-2025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



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 64.4 million assistance delivered through cash-based transfers

2,638 mt of in-kind food assistance distributed

USD 309.5 million net funding requirements representing **65 percent** of the total **USD 474.6 million** for the next six months (June-November 2022)

4 million people assisted in May 2022

Operational Updates

- Vulnerable Somalis are at an increased risk of famine at least until September 2022. **7.1 million** people are facing Crisis or worse food security outcomes, in Integrated Food Security Phase Classification (IPC) Phase 3 and above, including **2.1 million people** facing Emergency (IPC Phase 4). Over **213,000 people** face catastrophic hunger and starvation, a drastic increase from the 81,000 forecasts in April (IPC Phase 5 - Catastrophe). The areas facing the highest risk of famine are in central and southern Somalia.
- The nutrition situation is deteriorating in the worst affected areas with the poorest Somalis and children impacted the most. As of May 2022, an estimated **1.5 million children** under the age of 5 face acute malnutrition through the end of the year, including 386,400 who are likely to be severely malnourished.
- In May, WFP provided life-saving food assistance to **3.4 million Somalis** and emergency nutrition treatment support to **240,000** children aged 6-59 months and pregnant and lactating women and girls under the famine prevention efforts. Beneficiaries received in-kind food assistance or cash-based transfers (CBT). The WFP famine prevention approach emphasizes an integrated, intersectoral response to prevent loss of life, with a focus on the most food insecure, internally displaced populations, new arrival refugees, and asylum seekers, and the most nutrition vulnerable.
- Given the severity of the worsening drought situation and its implications on poor households, the Government of Somalia, through the Ministry of Labor and Social and Affairs, is scaling up its shock response efforts to alleviate the sufferings of the affected people. The initiative leverages the shock-response potential and delivery systems of the Safety Net for Human Capital Development (SNHCP), for the delivery of cash-based humanitarian assistance. The Government allowed frontloading of SNHCP's funding to support a drought-vertical top up to reach **982,000 people** with cash CBT for May-July quarter, of which **932,000** already received transfers in May.

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	422.9 m	309.5 m

<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><i>Focus area: 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><i>Focus area: 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><i>Focus area: 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><i>Focus area: 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><i>Focus area: 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.

- WFP provided school meals to **108,000 boys and girls** in 369 WFP-supported schools across Somalia. This is a sustained achievement since March. Providing daily school meals is keeping children in school in the face of protracted drought and the increased risk of famine, offering a safety net for families affected by drought, and reducing incentives for displacement.
- Under the Joint Resilience Programme with the United Nations International Children's Emergency Fund (UNICEF) and the Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations (FAO) in Gedo region, the Ministry of Health and cooperating partners trained 21 community health workers (CHWs). The training covered screening of acute malnutrition and the roles and responsibilities of CHWs, among others. The training was delivered in the local language to facilitate comprehension.
- Through livelihood (Food assistance For Assets) interventions, WFP reached 83,000 people. Beneficiaries were able to meet their immediate food needs while engaging in the creation or rehabilitation of community assets for mitigating drought impacts or participating in vocational training.
- In May, United Nations Humanitarian Air Service (UNHAS) transported 1,097 passengers and 151 mt of cargo in various locations in Somalia, including a special charter for the World Health Organization to Galkayo. UNHAS also airlifted 6 mt of COVID-19 Vaccines and other medical supplies for UNICEF from Nairobi to Mogadishu. The Logistics Cluster facilitated transportation of 45 mt of cargo belonging to four partners to seven locations. These included nutrition commodities, health, non-food items, food and COVID-19 testing kits.

Funding

- WFP needs urgent funding support to meet growing needs in Somalia. WFP is facing a funding gap of **USD 309.5 million** across all activities for the next six months. Without immediate additional confirmed contributions, 3.1 million people targeted under emergency relief activities will not receive transfers in the coming months. Nutrition interventions are also critically underfunded, forcing WFP to suspend malnutrition prevention programmes and scale down coverage for treatment of Moderate Acute Malnutrition. Even with these measures, a funding shortfall is looming for nutrition treatment programmes from July.

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.