



World Food Programme

WFP Somalia Country Brief

January 2023



Operational Context

Somalia has an estimated population of 16.9 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. On 15 May the President of the Federal Government of Somalia was elected to office. This milestone points to a stabilizing political situation, giving Somalia an opportunity to make progress on urgent national priorities including reducing the increased risk of famine.

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



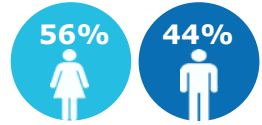
In Numbers

USD 45 million in assistance delivered through cash-based transfers in January

7,112 MT of in-kind food assistance distributed in January

USD 444.8 million net funding requirements across all activities for the next six months

4.1 million people assisted in January



Situation Update

- From January to March, 6.3 million people are expected to face crisis or worse food insecurity outcomes (IPC Phase 3 and above) including 322,000 who are likely to face catastrophic hunger (IPC Phase 5). Compounding food insecurity, 1.8 million children are estimated to suffer from acute malnutrition through July 2023.
- Potential onset of a sixth below-average rainfall from March to June, combined with high food prices and political instability, may result in continued high levels of humanitarian need across the country.
- New displacements within Somalia amounted to 288,000 people in January, most of which was either conflict-induced (79 percent) or drought-induced (20 percent). Food is the priority need of 45 percent of these newly displaced people.
- Challenges around humanitarian access and delivery of assistance remains of concern due to increasing conflicts and high security concerns.
- Intensified armed conflict in Laas Caanood in the disputed Sool Region has resulted in casualties, large scale displacement and major impediments in assistance delivery.

Operational Updates

- In January, WFP assisted 4.1 million people across all activities and distributed USD 45 million through cash-based transfers and 7,112 mt of food through in-kind support. WFP prioritizes cash-based transfers for its beneficiaries, empowering people with choice and generating economic multiplier effects in local markets.
- WFP relief assistance helps meet the most vulnerable households' essential food and non-food needs, contributes to famine prevention, and reduces the use of negative coping strategies. WFP provided relief food assistance to 3.4 million people in January, including 3.03 million who received cash-based transfers and 358,000 who received in-kind support. Over USD 43 million in relief funds were distributed.
- WFP provided specialised nutritious foods for the treatment and prevention of malnutrition to 588,000 people including malnourished children and pregnant and breastfeeding women.
- The government-led national shock responsive safety net (*Baxnaano*) has contributed to the country's overall drought response efforts ensuring the continuity of much-needed

Population: **15.8 million** (World Bank)

Internally displaced persons (IDPs): **2.9 million** (UNHCR)

People facing acute food crisis: **6.7 million** (IPC 3 & above until December)

National global acute malnutrition rate: **15.9 percent (serious)**

Picture Caption: Recently arrived IDPs at Kaharey camp, Dolow
Credit: WFP/Petroc Wilton

Country strategic plan (2022-2025)

Total requirement (in USD)	Allocated contributions (in USD)	Six-month net funding requirements (in USD)
4.22 billion	1.07 billion	444.8 million

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.

cash-based assistance to those chronically poor and vulnerable households. In January, on behalf of the Government, WFP supported an expansion of this programme to 39,000 vulnerable drought-affected people who had not previously been covered by the safety net.

- In response to the escalating violence and resulting displacement and loss of life in the Laas Caanood District, WFP is addressing immediate food needs of up to 177,800 affected people and will provide emergency nutrition support to 56,400 malnourished children and pregnant and breastfeeding women.
- In line with the Integrated Response Framework for Somalia, WFP is delivering first line assistance to vulnerable populations in hard-to-reach areas and for new IDP arrivals in formal and informal settlements across the country. In January, 38,000 people received first line assistance in Dinsor and Jamaame Districts.
- WFP's home-grown school feeding program has remained a vital safety net in the drought response. WFP school feeding encourages families to send their children to school, promotes access to education, and assist in meeting the nutritional needs of vulnerable schoolchildren even during times of crisis. WFP reached 163,000 children in January, including children in drought affected areas.
- In January, UNHAS transported 1,395 passengers and over 71.8 mt of relief items and urgent cargo to 20 destinations. UNHAS in collaboration with Logistics Cluster transported 56.3 mt of food and urgent relief items and 51 passengers. The Logistics Cluster facilitated the transport of 132 mt of cargo reaching eight locations on behalf of eight partners.

Funding

- WFP thanks all donors for their generous contributions for the famine prevention response. The overall funding gap for WFP Somalia's Country Strategic Plan over the next six months stands at USD 444.8 million. WFP's funding gap for life-saving humanitarian food and nutrition assistance over the next six months is USD 406.6 million, amounting to 56 percent of requirements. WFP's CBT requirements for emergency food assistance are covered through March 2023. The in-kind food pipeline is covered through June 2023. WFP's nutrition treatment programmes are fully funded through August 2023, with global supply chain production shortfalls closely monitored and managed to avert a break in supplies. Significant gaps remain for nutrition prevention activities, and WFP is supporting a reduced number of people through in-kind support and cash for nutrition.

Donors

- Australia, Canada, China, Church of Latter-Day Saints, Denmark, European Commission (ECHO & INTPA), Federal Government of Somalia, Finland, France, Germany, Iceland, Italy, Japan, New Zealand, Norway, Republic of Korea, Saudi Arabia, Somalia Humanitarian Fund (SHF), Sweden, Switzerland, Ukraine, UN CERF, United Kingdom, USA.

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