**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 affect 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 42.8 million** in assistance delivered through cash-based transfers
- **12,042 MT** of in-kind food assistance distributed
- **USD 296.8 million** net funding requirements across all activities for the next six months
- **5.6 million people** assisted in May

**Situation Update**

- Approximately 6.6 million people are projected to face Crisis-level or worse food insecurity (IPC 3 and above) between April and June 2023. The number of people projected to face Catastrophic hunger (IPC 5) has decreased from 223,000 to 40,000 people, due to the mitigating effects of sustained, multi-sectoral humanitarian assistance and better than expected rainfall performance during recent Gu rainy season. Approximately 1.8 million children under five are projected to be acutely malnourished from January to December 2023, including 477,700 who are projected to be severely malnourished.
- Several areas in Somalia are experiencing moderate to heavy rains and flash and riverine floods, particularly in Beletweyne district in Hiraan State, and Baardheere district in Jubaland State. Latest OCHA report suggests at least 468,000 people have been affected by floods, with 247,000 displaced.
- WFP’s Corporate Scale-up for Somalia was activated in August 2022 to address the urgency of the food security situation and drought-crisis. The Corporate Scale-up was deactivated in May 2023, and, over this period, it supported improved crisis response and delivery of emergency assistance.

**Operational Updates**

**Humanitarian Food Assistance**

- Humanitarian assistance provided by WFP helps address essential needs of the most vulnerable households, contributes towards famine prevention, and reduces use of negative coping strategies. In May, WFP reached 3.1 million people with humanitarian food assistance, including an expansion of the national safety net programme (Baxnaano) to 908,000 vulnerable drought-affected people.
- WFP is addressing the immediate food needs of 130,000 flood affected people by providing a combination of in-kind and cash-based transfers assistance. In May, WFP completed regular cash-based transfers worth USD 738,000 for 63,000 people affected by floods and delivered 54 mt of one-off food assistance top-up High Energy Biscuits (HEBs) to 60,000 people.

**Nutrition**

- WFP’s nutrition support focuses on providing specialized nutritious food commodities for life-saving treatment and prevention of acute malnutrition. In May, WFP provided treatment and malnutrition prevention support to 1.1 million people, including malnourished children under 5 years and pregnant and breastfeeding women. A total of 620,000 people received treatment services and 480,000 received malnutrition prevention support.
WFP Country Strategy

Country strategic plan (2022-2025)

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Total requirement (in USD)</th>
<th>Allocated contributions (in USD)</th>
<th>Six-month net funding requirements (in USD)</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>4.7 billion</td>
<td>1.5 billion</td>
<td>296.8 million</td>
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</tbody>
</table>

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 2: 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 strengthen 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's cash-for-prevention of acute malnutrition intervention focuses on improving accessibility to nutritious food commodities particularly for vulnerable children and pregnant and breastfeeding women. As of May, registrations and payments have been completed for 6,733 households.

School Feeding

WFP's home-grown school feeding activity encourages families to send children to school, promotes continuity of education and helps meet nutrition requirement of vulnerable schoolchildren even at times of crisis. WFP reached 190,000 school going children in May, including children in drought affected areas.

Social Protection

To increase digital financial inclusion and support women's economic empowerment, WFP partnered with GSMA, a global network of mobile service provider to roll out trainings on mobile money usage. In May, WFP and GSMA started the second round of mobile money trainings. WFP's cooperating partners participated in the trainings and will in turn build digital capacity of targeted communities in using mobile money and thus support their financial autonomy.

Climate-smart food systems

WFP empowers communities to anticipate, prepare for and recover from climate shocks through improving digital financial inclusion and post-harvest loss management practices. In May, under the Supporting Resilient Smallholder Farming Systems project, WFP rolled out financial and digital literacy training for 1,200 people. WFP also conducted orientation meeting in 10 villages with lead farmers on post-harvest grain storage demonstrations.

UNHAS and Logistics

In May, WFP's logistics transported 13,507 mt of food to 71 locations across Somalia by road and 833 mt to 15 locations by air. Total cargo transported by WFP via road and air during 2023 has totalled to over 51,795 mt, reaching 97 locations. The WFP-managed United Nations Humanitarian Air Services (UNHAS) transported 790 passengers and 10 mt of relief items and urgent cargo to 14 regular destinations and four ad-hoc locations, including drought-affected and other priority areas.

Funding

WFP thanks all donors who have generously supported the people of Somalia with increased 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 296.8 million, amounting to 46 percent of requirements. WFP's funding gap for life-saving humanitarian food and nutrition assistance over the next six months is USD 243.3 million.

Donors

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

Contact Info: Muriel Calo (muriel.calo@wfp.org)
Country Director: Elkhidir Daloum
Further information: www.wfp.org/countries/somalia
Twitter: @WFPsomalia