



WFP Somalia

Country Brief

July 2023

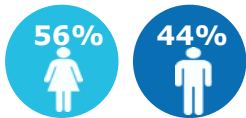
In Numbers

USD 26 million in assistance delivered through cash-based transfers in July

6600 Mt of in-kind food assistance was distributed in July.

3.4 million people assisted in July.

USD 294 million net funding requirements across all activities for the next six months



Situation Update

The humanitarian needs in Somalia remain high due to the devastating impact of climatic shocks such as droughts and floods, and armed conflict. The prolonged drought in recent years has severely impacted the livelihoods of local communities. Although the scale-up of humanitarian assistance along with favourable Gu rains has brought some relief and has helped avert famine, communities are still recovering from the impact of the drought. In addition, crop and livestock production in most parts of the country is still below the desired level. As of June 2023, [an estimated 6.6 million people were projected to be acutely food insecure](#). Malnutrition levels remain critical with over 1.8 million children under five years and another 500,000 pregnant and breastfeeding women estimated to be acutely malnourished through to December 2023.

Emerging conflict in some areas including Banadir and Hirshabelle continues to exacerbate the humanitarian situation. Security challenges are disrupting the flow of food commodities and access to services, further aggravating food insecurity.

Operational Updates

Humanitarian Food Assistance

WFP provides humanitarian assistance to address the essential needs of the most vulnerable households and reduce the use of negative coping strategies. In July, WFP reached 2.4 million people with humanitarian food assistance. This included 533,000 people who were served through an expansion of the government-led Shock Responsive Safety Net for Human Capital Project.

Nutrition

WFP's nutrition support focuses on providing specialized nutritious food commodities for the treatment and prevention of acute malnutrition. In July, WFP reached one million people including children under five years and pregnant and breastfeeding women, with 3088 mt of specialised nutritious foods.

Significant progress has been made in the Cash for Prevention (C4P) initiative, with cash-based transfers and top-ups completed for 14,804 people. These efforts are accompanied by ongoing evidence generation and finalization of the Social and Behavioural Change Communication (SBCC) components including the initiation of radio spots. These developments contribute to establishing an evidence base to demonstrate the effectiveness of cash in preventing acute malnutrition.

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, and limited access to clean water, sanitation, and health. While social protection is evolving, scale and coverage remain 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, allowing Somalia 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 14 operational offices across Somalia.



Population: 15.8 million (World Bank)	Internally displaced persons (IDPs): 2.9 million (UNHCR)
People facing acute food crisis: 6.6 million (IPC 3 & above until Dec)	National global acute malnutrition rate: 15.9 percent (serious)

WFP Country Strategy

Country strategic plan (2022-2025)

Total requirement (in USD)	Allocated contributions (in USD)	Six-month net funding requirements (in USD)
4.7 billion	1.7 billion	294 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.

Picture Caption: Recently arrived IDPs at Kaharey camp, Dolow

Credit: WFP/Petroc Wilton

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Social Protection

Based on previous user journey analysis and gender analysis studies, WFP delivered digital literacy training to empower women with knowledge and skills on mobile money and financial autonomy. The training aimed to connect women to existing livelihood opportunities and capitalise on government-to-person mobile cash transfers for greater impact. The training centred on mobile internet skills, particularly mobile money usage revealed that there is limited mobile phone availability and affordability among some beneficiaries. This constraint is projected to hinder practical application, as beneficiaries lack the necessary devices for mobile money tasks, often depending on neighbours to access their entitlements.

Climate-smart food systems and resilient livelihoods

In collaboration with WFP and all relevant stakeholders, the Somalia Disaster Management Agency (SoDMA) developed a national anticipatory action framework for flood response in Somalia outlining flood risks and anticipated impacts, thresholds and triggers, early action, pre-financing, and monitoring and evaluation.

Under the leadership of the Food Systems National Convenor, and with support from WFP and other key stakeholders, Somalia undertook its second national Food Systems National Pathways Stocktaking Event and Dialogue in July ahead of the UN Food Systems Stocktaking Moment in Rome later in the month. The event aimed to comprehensively engage all stakeholders to take stock of the progress in implementing the food systems summit deliberations with a particular focus on Somalia's food systems national pathways.

Gender and Protection

WFP trained partners (93 in Mogadishu and 41 in Somaliland) on gender, gender transformative programming and humanitarian protection. The training aimed to ensure the effective implementation of Gender Transformative Programming while seamlessly integrating protection into programs and operations.

Funding

WFP thanks all donors for their increased contributions to the famine prevention response. Over the next six months, the overall funding gap for WFP Somalia's Country Strategic Plan is USD 294 million, representing 48 percent of requirements. Over the next six months, WFP's funding gap for life-saving humanitarian relief and nutrition assistance is USD 245 million.

Donors

Australia, Austria, Billa and Melinda Gates Foundation, Canada, China, Church of Latter-Day Saints, Denmark, European Union, Finland, France, Germany, Global Partnership for Education, Humanitarian Aid and Relief Centre, Iceland, Italy, Japan, Kuwait, New Zealand, Norway, Republic of Korea, Spain Saudi Arabia, Somalia Humanitarian Fund (SHF), Sweden, Switzerland, Ukraine, UN CERF, United Kingdom, NORAD, USA.