

# WFP Somalia

## Country Brief

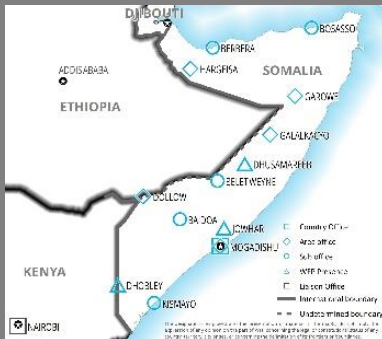
### January 2024



## Operational Context

Somalia has an estimated population of 17 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 14 operational offices across Somalia.



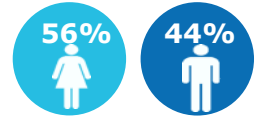
## In Numbers

**2 million people** assisted in January.

**USD 17.6 million** assistance delivered via cash-based transfers in January.

**3,884 mt** of in-kind food assistance distributed in January.

**USD 342.2 million** net funding requirements across all activities for the next six months (February – July 2024).



## Situation Update

[Latest Integrated Phase Classification \(IPC\) Food Security and Acute Malnutrition assessment results](#) show that 4 million people face crisis-level or worse food insecurity between January and March 2024. *El Niño*-induced floods combined with aftereffects of the drought, protracted conflict and high food prices continue to fuel acute food insecurity in Somalia. However, this IPC result notes a 20 percent reduction in the number of food insecure people as compared to same period last year, indicative of an improved situation. This is attributable to improved rainfall performance over the past two rainy seasons, that positively impacted pastoral livelihoods, and sustained humanitarian assistance, that mitigated further deterioration of food insecurity. High levels of malnutrition persist in Somalia with 1.7 million children under five expected to suffer from acute malnutrition in 2024, including 430,000 children likely to face life-threatening severe acute malnutrition – attributable to high disease burden and poor access to health, nutrition and WASH facilities.

The October-December 2023 *Deyr* rains, which caused devastating floods, experienced an early end. However, the flood impacts were substantial with [2.4 million](#) people affected; a million displaced; and [complete crop failure along the Juba and Shabelle rivers](#). In 2024, 6.9 million Somali people are expected to require lifesaving humanitarian and protection assistance.

## Operational Updates

### Humanitarian food assistance

Delivery of humanitarian assistance enables WFP to effectively reach food insecure people, including those in conflict-affected areas. In January, WFP reached 1.4 million people with humanitarian food assistance and distributed USD 16 million cash and 2,830 mt of in-kind food. WFP recognizes and values interagency collaboration for integrated responses. In January, WFP engaged with UNICEF to streamline the delivery of fortified biscuits (High-Energy Biscuits) to flood-displaced people to address the most urgent food and nutrition needs.

### Assistance to flood-affected people

Emergency assistance to flood affected people is a part of WFP's humanitarian food assistance and nutrition support. In January, 460,000 flood-affected people received food assistance via cash transfers, while 7,900 received one-off delivery of fortified biscuits. An additional 180,000 pregnant and breastfeeding women and girls, children under five and those suffering from tuberculosis or HIV in flood-affected districts received nutrition support.

WFP engaged with national agencies, UN agencies and local humanitarian actors through multi-sectoral *El Niño* flood

Population: **17 million**

Internally displaced persons (IDPs):  
**3.8 million**

People facing acute food crisis: 4  
**million** (IPC 3 & above between Jan –  
Mar 2024)

National global acute malnutrition  
rate: **15 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	1.9 billion	342.2 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, including emergency home-grown school feeding, 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 HGFS.
- 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 and development community.
- Provide mandated emergency telecoms services to the humanitarian & development community through the Emergency Telecommunications Cluster.

**Picture Credit:** WFP/Abdirazak Ibrahim

**Contact info:** Muriel Calo ([muriel.calo@wfp.org](mailto:muriel.calo@wfp.org))

**Country Director:** Elkhidir Daloum

**Further information:** [www.wfp.org/countries/somalia](http://www.wfp.org/countries/somalia)

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preparedness and response meetings, sharing learnings on flood preparedness and response, enhancing strategies for operational coordination in relief response, and strengthening forward-looking plans for flood preparedness and anticipatory action.

## Nutrition

In January, WFP provided nutrition support to 363,000 people including children under five, pregnant and breastfeeding women and girls, and those suffering from tuberculosis or HIV. WFP's cash for nutrition prevention project in IDP camps in Baidoa and Mogadishu was completed. This project was integrated with WFP's existing emergency food assistance, providing cash top-ups to 15,000 pregnant and breastfeeding women and children under two – further coupled with tailored social and behavioural change communication messaging. Project outcomes will inform effectiveness and scalability of cash for nutrition prevention in 2024.

## Climate-smart food systems and resilient livelihoods

Through 2023, WFP strengthened the capacities of 10,500 smallholder farmers and benefited thousands more through productive assets and trainings, contributing toward resilient food systems and livelihoods. In consultation with key stakeholders, WFP developed a climate-smart food systems strategy which aims that by 2025, national institutions, private sectors, smallholder farmers, and food-insecure and nutritionally vulnerable people in Somalia benefit from climate-smart, productive, resilient, inclusive, and nutritious food systems. In January, WFP held an external validation workshop for the strategy, including participation from the Government, donors, beneficiaries and private sector.

## Supply chain

WFP's on-demand logistics services and supply chain expertise enable the humanitarian community to reach those most in need. The WFP-led Far Reaching Integrated Delivery project has so far transported 1,800 cold chain supplies to 11 locations and assessed 20 health facilities across six districts. Collaborations with the Government further aim for stronger in-country logistics capacities. WFP developed a position paper outlining long-term vision and strategy for supply chain improvements at the national level.

## Funding

WFP thanks all donors for contributions towards food insecurity and malnutrition response in Somalia. Over the next six months, the overall funding gap for WFP Somalia's Country Strategic Plan stands at USD 342.2 million, amounting to 63 percent of requirements. Of this, WFP's urgent funding gap for life-saving humanitarian relief and nutrition assistance is USD 289 million.

## Donors

Australia, Austria, Bill and Melinda Gates Foundation, Canada, Catalan Agency for Development Cooperation, Church of Latter-Day Saints, Denmark, European Union, Federal Government of Somalia, Finland, France, Germany, King Salman Humanitarian Aid and Relief Centre, Iceland, Italy, Japan, Kuwait, Monaco, NORAD, New Zealand, Norway, Republic of Korea, Spain, Saudi Arabia, Somalia Humanitarian Fund, Sweden, Switzerland, Ukraine, UN CERF, United Kingdom, USA and World Bank.