



WFP Somalia Country Brief January 2025



In Numbers

1.4 million people assisted

US\$ 7.4 million delivered via cash-based transfers

2,830 mt of in-kind food assistance distributed

US\$ 297.49 million net funding requirements for the next six months (March – August 2025)

Situation Update

- The latest Integrated Food Security Phase Classification (IPC) results indicate that **3.4 million** people (17 percent of the population) are experiencing high levels of acute food insecurity (IPC Phase 3 or above). This is caused by below-average rainfall between October and December 2024, which led to low crop yields and rapid depletion of pasture and water sources. Conflict and insecurity in central and southern Somalia, as well as parts of the northern regions, have continued to displace communities, disrupt farming and livestock activities, and restrict market access.
- The food security situation in Somalia is expected to worsen due to the short-lived and erratic 2024 *Deyr* and *Gu* rains, compounded by a hot and harsh *Jilaal* season (January to March 2025) influenced by ongoing impact of *La Niña*, which are likely to persist through April 2025. These adverse weather conditions are expected to further strain the already fragile food security situation.
- The number of people facing IPC Phase 3 or above (Crisis or worse) is projected to increase to **4.4 million** (23 percent of the population). This worsening situation is due to factors such as below-average *Gu* rains, rising food prices, ongoing conflict, and localized flooding, pests, and diseases. Additionally, approximately **1.7 million** children aged 6–59 months are expected to suffer from acute malnutrition in 2025, highlighting the severe impact on vulnerable populations.

Operational Updates

Humanitarian food assistance:

- In January, WFP provided essential humanitarian assistance to 895,000 people with cash-based transfers totalling US\$ 7 million and 2,257 mt of food in-kind.
- WFP conducted disaster risk management (DRM) sessions targeting 38 media professionals and journalists in Baidoa and Mogadishu. These sessions aimed to improve risk assessment, build local capacity, and promote sustainable development. By raising awareness and facilitating collaboration, the session highlighted the media's role in reporting DRM issues, promoting public awareness, and contributing to disaster risk reduction solutions.

Nutrition:

- WFP provided vital nutrition support to 313,000 children under five and pregnant and breastfeeding women and girls (PBWG) through the distribution of 524 mt of specialized nutritious commodities. This included supplementation for moderate acute malnutrition for 180,000 children and PBWG, as well as malnutrition prevention support for 133,000 children and PBWG.

Home-grown School Feeding:

- In January, WFP's school meals programme reached 77,000 schoolchildren and contributed US\$ 343,000 to the local economy through local food procurement, supporting smallholder farmers

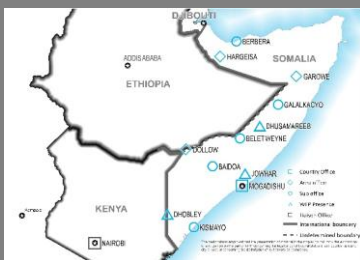


Operational Context

Somalia has an estimated population of 19.3 million. Poverty is widespread, with seven out of ten Somalis living on less than US\$ 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.

Somalia has shown promising results in terms of food security. It has demonstrated improvement since the peak of the drought in 2022-2023 when famine was averted in 2023. The government has been able to strengthen social protection systems and be more assertive about security and economic growth. Additionally, resilience and anticipatory action have shown positive results during the 2023 floods. However, despite all these efforts, a significant portion of the population still faces crisis and is predicted to face high levels of acute food insecurity in 2025.



Population: 19.3 million	Internally displaced persons (IDPs): 3.8 million
People facing acute food crisis: 4.4 million (IPC 3 & above between Oct– Dec 2024)	National global acute malnutrition rate: 15 percent (serious)

WFP Country Strategy

Country strategic plan (2022-2025)

Total requirement (In US\$)	Allocated contributions (in US\$)	Six-month net funding requirements (in US\$)
4.7 billion	1.9 billion	297.49 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 school feeding in emergency, as well as early recovery and emergency livelihood support to crisis-affected people such as returning refugees, IDPs and people living with HIV.

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 home-grown school feeding.
- 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 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 and development community.
- (Deactivated) Provide mandated emergency telecoms services to the humanitarian & development community through the Emergency Telecommunications Cluster.

Picture Credit: WFP/Geneva Costopoulos

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and strengthening local food systems. WFP engaged with the Ministry of Education, Culture, and Higher Education (MoECHE) at both federal and state levels to refine the Home-Grown School Feeding Strategy, improving programme coverage, quality, and sustainability. This strategy focuses on refining targeting and school selection for a more inclusive approach. The collaboration strengthens the partnership between federal and state governments, ensuring school selection reflects local needs while optimizing resources and aligning with national priorities. However, critical resource shortfalls remain, and WFP is only able to deliver school meals to less than 50 percent of the caseload.

Joint Resilience Programme:

- The Joint Resilient Programme (JRP) has made significant strides in building resilience, enhancing food security, and promoting sustainable livelihoods for vulnerable communities in Somalia. Supporting 1,261 farmers across 140 farms, the programme introduced mechanization, reducing land preparation costs by 40 percent, and improved farming techniques, boosting yields by 40 percent and enhancing resilience to dry spells. It established 19,000 half-moon structures for water retention and solarized three boreholes with 54 solar panels for energy-efficient water extraction. Training for 1,261 farmers reduced post-harvest losses by 20-25 percent. Additionally, 10 Village Savings and Loan (VSLA) groups were formed to strengthen financial resilience and provide long-term economic stability. These efforts drive community-led adaptation to climate change and promote sustainable agricultural practices in Somalia.

UNHAS and Logistics cluster:

- UN Humanitarian Air Service (UNHAS) maintains strong collaboration with the Somali Civil Aviation Authority (SCAA) and other airport stakeholders to ensure seamless execution of flight operations across Somalia. In January, UNHAS facilitated the transportation of 820 passengers and over 9.945 mt of light cargo, supporting 60 organizations in reaching 20 locations nationwide. WFP logistics cluster supported partners to airlift 38 mt life-saving commodities to people in need to hard-to reach areas in southern Somalia.

Funding

- WFP thanks all donors supporting efforts to address food insecurity and malnutrition in Somalia. For the next six months (March – August 2025), **WFP Somalia's Country Strategic Plan faces a US\$ 297.49 million funding gap**, representing 73 percent of the requirements. The urgent funding shortfall for life-saving humanitarian relief and nutrition assistance stands at US\$ 280 million, 81 percent of the requirements.

Donors

African Development Bank, Canada, Denmark, European Union, Federal Government of Somalia, France, Germany, Global Agriculture and Food Security Programme (GAFSP), Japan, Private donors, Republic of Korea, Saudi Arabia, Spain, Sweden, UN CERF, United Kingdom, USA.