

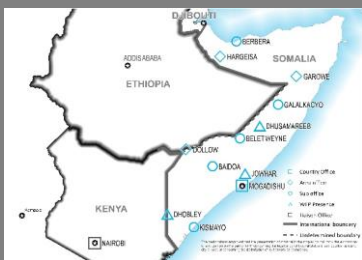


#### Operational Context

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: <b>19.3 million</b>	Internally displaced persons (IDPs): <b>3.8 million</b>
People facing acute food crisis: <b>4.4 million</b> (IPC 3 & above between Apr–Jun 2025)	National global acute malnutrition rate: <b>15 percent (serious)</b>

#### In Numbers



**1.4 million** people assisted

**US\$ 9.5 million** delivered via cash-based transfers

**3,284 mt** of in-kind food assistance distributed

**US\$ 243 million** net funding requirements for the next six months (April – September 2025)

#### Situation Update

- Food Security in Somalia is worsening, with **3.4 million** people facing severe hunger and an additional **1.7 million** children under five expected to suffer from acute malnutrition this year. By June, acute food insecurity could affect **4.4 million** people – nearly a quarter of the population – due to below-average rainfall and drought, rising food prices, ongoing conflict.
- FAO reports that **17 districts** face severe drought, including six priority areas: Afmadow, Baidoa, Belet Weyne, Bu'aale, Diinsoor, and Qansax Dheere. The latest IPC findings indicate 481,000 people in these districts are likely to face acute food insecurity (IPC phase 3 and above) between April-June 2025. [IOM reports](#) that 66 percent of the 14,500 new internally displaced persons (IDPs) across 25 districts in mid-February were displaced due to drought.
- The Federal Government of Somalia has launched a [preparedness plan](#) to address food and nutrition security. Developed in consultation with government ministries and humanitarian partners, it aims to enable a timely, coordinated response to the crisis.
- Rising insecurity and ongoing armed conflict are further exacerbating the humanitarian crisis. In [Middle Shabelle](#), intensified clashes have displaced approximately 15,200 people, forcing them to flee to neighboring towns and villages. The largest number of displaced individuals (over 1,500) have sought refuge in Gordhhere, Masajid Cali Gaduud, and Cadale, where urgent humanitarian needs remain unmet. Escalating insecurity and the presence of non-state actors have severely constrained humanitarian access.

#### Operational Updates

##### Humanitarian food assistance:

- In February, WFP provided life-saving food and nutrition assistance to 902,000 people through cash-based transfers totalling US\$ 7.5 million and 2,485 mt of in-kind food.
- WFP also conducted a Flood and Drought Early Warning Simulation exercise in Baidoa, engaging senior officials from Southwest and Hirshabelle, international and national partners, and federal representatives from the Somali Disaster Management Agency (SODMA). The exercise aimed to strengthen technical capacity, inter-agency coordination, and the effectiveness of early warning systems for flood and drought events.

##### Nutrition:

- WFP provided nutrition support to 307,000 children under five and pregnant and breastfeeding women and girls (PBWG) through the distribution of 799 mt of specialized nutritious commodities in February. This included moderate acute malnutrition supplementation for 193,000 children and PBWG.
- WFP is working in collaboration with the Scaling Up Nutrition (SUN) Secretariat in the Office of the Prime Minister to support the Fill the Nutrient Gap (FNG) and Cost of Diet studies. These initiatives will provide critical evidence to inform WFP Somalia's 2026-2030 nutrition strategy, as well as national nutrition policies and the multisectoral nutrition strategy.

## 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	243 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/Arete/Mahad Said

**Contact info:** Michèle Kiermeier (michele.kiermeier@wfp.org)

**Country Director:** El-Khidir Daloum

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

**Twitter:** @WFPSomalia

#### Home-grown School Feeding (HGFSF):

- In February, 80,000 schoolchildren were assisted through WFP's school meals programme which contributed US\$ 739,000 to the local economy through local food procurement, supporting smallholder farmers and strengthening local food systems whilst helping keep children in school.
- Preliminary findings from an internal study completed by WFP in Dollow showed that enrolment in programme-supported schools increased by 80 percent between 2019 to 2024, demonstrating the strong pull of school meals as an incentive for attendance. The study also highlights multiple benefits: smallholder farmers reported improved livelihoods through access to a stable market via the HGFSF initiative; communities noted improved perceptions of girls' education; and vulnerable households valued the support to healthier diets provided through school meals.

#### Social Behaviour Change Communication (SBCC) Initiatives:

- In February, WFP conducted SBCC sessions for 60 participants from 20 schools to address social norms that hinder education. This initiative aimed to strengthen the capacity of school staff and committees to promote a safe and inclusive learning environment, focusing on the harmful effects of Female Genital Mutilation (FGM) and early marriage. It also fostered collaboration between school committees and parents, established ten school clubs in Galkayo, and created platforms for students to openly discuss educational barriers and harmful social practices.

#### Sustainable Agricultural Development Initiatives:

- WFP supported 80,000 people through the provision of agricultural and market support activities. In collaboration with the Ministry of Agriculture and Irrigation (MoAI) and FAO, WFP co-organized a workshop for the National Agricultural Extension Policy (NAEP) to enhance agricultural services and support farmers, improving productivity and food security. This milestone shapes agricultural service delivery and farmer support in Somalia.
- Additionally, WFP trained six partners, seven government officials, and 15 WFP staff on environmental and social safeguards. This training ensures effective and responsible interventions while minimizing environmental risks.

#### UNHAS and Logistics cluster:

- UN Humanitarian Air Service (UNHAS) fosters partnerships with aviation stakeholders and authorities, ensuring uninterrupted operations. In February, UNHAS transported 1,046 passengers and 6.7 mt of light cargo, supporting 57 organizations across 17 locations.
- The Logistics Cluster transported 25 mt of medical supplies to three locations for two humanitarian agencies. A Gaps and Needs Analysis (GNA) was completed to guide strategic decision-making and enhance coordination among partners.

## Funding

- WFP thanks all donors supporting efforts to address food insecurity and malnutrition in Somalia. For the next six months (April–September 2025), WFP Somalia faces a US\$ 243 million funding gap across all its activities, representing 61 percent of the requirements. The urgent funding shortfall for life-saving humanitarian relief assistance and nutrition support stands at US\$ 226 million, 68 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.*