



Operational Context

Somalia faces complex challenges of protracted conflict, limited social services and escalating climate shocks. In a country with an estimated population of 19.3 million, 5.98 million people are likely to require humanitarian assistance, driven by food insecurity, displacement, and limited access to basic services. Frequent and severe climate extremes, alternating droughts and floods, have devastated agriculture and livelihoods, deepening vulnerabilities across the country.

Poverty remains widespread, with 54 percent of the population living below the poverty line. Youth, who make up 75 percent of the population, face limited opportunities, contributing to displacement. Education access is low, with millions of children out of school, many exposed to negative coping mechanisms such as child labour, early marriage, and family separation. Women and children (almost 80 percent of the internally displaced) face heightened protection risks in overcrowded, under-resourced settlements.

Security remains fragile. Government-led offensives continue against non-State armed actors. In January 2025, the African Union Support and Stabilization Mission in Somalia (AUSSOM) replaced the African Union Transition Mission in Somalia (ATMIS), supporting Somali-led stabilization and peacebuilding efforts.

Amid these challenges, Somalia's National Transformation Plan (2025–2029) charts a path toward stability through governance reform, sustainable economic growth, human capital development and climate resilience. WFP aligns with this framework, delivering life-saving assistance while strengthening long-term resilience under its Country Strategic Plan (2022–2025).



Population: **19.3 million**

Internally displaced persons (IDPs):
3.9 million

People facing acute food crisis:
4.6 million (IPC 3 & above
between Apr–Jun 2025)

National global acute malnutrition
rate: **15 percent (serious)**

In Numbers

1.5 million people assisted

US\$ 15 million delivered via cash-based transfers

3,332 mt of in-kind food assistance distributed

US\$ 225 million net funding requirements for the next six months
(May – October 2025)

Situation Update

- The Integrated Food Security Phase Classification (IPC) Technical Working Group in Somalia published [updated food insecurity and malnutrition analysis results](#) on 29 March, factoring in reduced funding for humanitarian assistance and anticipated increases in displacement, driven primarily by conflict and drought. [Multi-hazard displacement projections](#) estimate over 230,000 people could be displaced between April and June. Drought is expected to be the primary driver, responsible for 69 percent of these movements, especially affecting areas such as Banadir, Baidoa, Kismayo, Luuq, and Afmadow, which could collectively receive over 95,000 new arrivals. Conflict is projected to account for the remaining 31 percent of displacements, primarily in Bari, Hiraan, and Middle Shabelle. Women and children are expected to comprise 76 percent of those displaced.
- Between April and June 2025, an estimated 4.6 million people in Somalia are projected to face severe impacts of hunger and acute food insecurity (IPC phase 3 or higher), marking a rise from the 4.4 million previously estimated in January. Apart from dwindling availability of funds, anticipated below average *Gu* season (April–June) rainfall, rising food prices, continued conflict and insecurity, and localized flooding persist as key drivers of food insecurity.
- The estimated acute malnutrition burden, from January to December 2025, has risen to 1.8 million children under five, including 1.3 million likely to face moderate acute malnutrition. This marks an increase of nearly 47,000 children from the previous estimate of 1.7 million. The worsening malnutrition is driven by growing hunger gaps due to reduced food assistance, inadequate child feeding practices, limited access to clean water, and the closure of health facilities and nutrition programmes in Somalia.

Operational Updates

Humanitarian food assistance:

- WFP provided lifesaving food assistance to 1 million people in March with cash-based transfers amounting to US\$ 14.4 million and in-kind food distributions of 2,196 mt.
- WFP, in coordination with the Ministry of Labour and Social Affairs (MoLSA) and Somali Disaster Management Agency (SODMA), completed the Humanitarian Assistance and Resilience Building in Somalia (HARBS) project. This shock-responsive initiative provided one-time cash transfers worth US\$ 6.6 million to over 110,500 shock-affected individuals – across seven prioritized districts in Hirshabelle, Galmudug, and Southwest States – with the aim of mitigating seasonal stress, improving food security and reducing reliance on negative coping strategies.

Nutrition support:

- In March, WFP provided nutrition support to 359,000 children under five and pregnant and breastfeeding women and girls (PBWG) through the distribution of 1,136 mt of specialized nutritious commodities. This included moderate acute malnutrition supplementation for 211,000 children and PBWG.
- WFP maintains a strong partnership with the Federal Ministry of Health (MoH), offering strategic, technical, and operational



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	225 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/Utaama Mohamud
Contact info: Michèle Kiermeier (michele.kiermeier@wfp.org)
Country Director: El-Khidir Daloum
Further information: www.wfp.org/countries/somalia
Twitter: @WFPSomalia

support to strengthen Somalia’s national nutrition systems. WFP supported the MoH’s participation in the Nutrition for Growth Summit in Paris, contributing to Somalia’s global nutrition commitments.

- Sustainable agricultural development initiatives:**
- WFP provided agricultural and market support to 80,000 people, aiming to strengthen food security and boost rural livelihoods. Under the scaling-up market-based agricultural productivity and income enhancement programme, 1,940 smallholder farmers in Jowhar and Beletweyne districts received agricultural input packages ahead of the *Gu* (April-June) rainfall season. This included 58 mt of maize and sorghum seeds and 72 mt of urea fertilizer, enough to cover plantations across 4,850 hectares of farmland. This effort was complemented by training on best planting practices and Good Agricultural Practices (GAP). With improved inputs and skills, maize and sorghum yields in the region are expected to rise by 32 percent.
 - In parallel, WFP, in partnership with the Ministry of Women and Human Rights Development (MoWHRD), also sensitized 63 farmers in Jowhar with messages on joint decision-making across the agricultural value chain. In Gabiley, 150 participants, including farmers, youth, women’s groups and religious leaders, also received training on climate-resilient, community-driven farming.

- Community feedback mechanism:**
- To strengthen accountability and community engagement, WFP continues to operate its Community Feedback Mechanism (CFM), which also includes a toll-free hotline number. Since January 2025, the system has recorded over 27,000 cases, with 85 percent of the cases comprising entitlement and information requests and only around 15 percent complaints. WFP has resolved 99 percent of all cases received.

- Humanitarian services:**
- UNHAS transported 526 passengers and 13.4 mt of light cargo across 17 locations in March, enabling 45 organizations to deliver assistance in hard-to-reach areas. WFP’s on-demand bilateral logistics service also transported 76 mt of humanitarian cargo to Kismayo and Baidoa and stored 3,438 mt of supplies for UN agencies in Jubaland and Galmudug States.
 - Logistics cluster, in collaboration with WFP offices in Kenya and Somalia, regularized quarterly transport schedules to streamline cross-border supply chains and advocated for the temporary reopening of the Mandera border. This enabled timely and cost-effective delivery of 180 mt of humanitarian cargo to all districts within the Gedo region and parts of the Southwest State.

- Funding**
- WFP thanks all donors supporting efforts to address food insecurity and malnutrition in Somalia. For the next six months (May–October 2025), WFP Somalia faces a US\$ 225 million funding gap across all its activities, representing 58 percent of the requirements. The urgent funding shortfall for life-saving humanitarian food assistance and nutrition support stands at US\$ 211 million, 64 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.