

WFP Somalia

Country Brief

June 2025



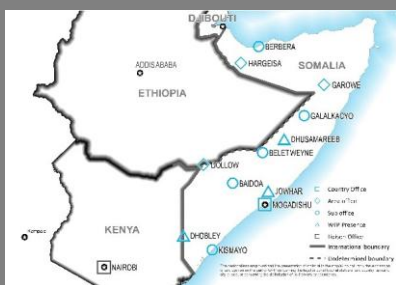
Operational Context

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)**

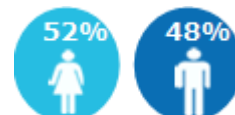
In Numbers

1 million people assisted

US\$ 6 million delivered via cash-based transfers

2,594 mt of in-kind food assistance distributed

US\$ 266 million six months net funding requirements (July–Dec 2025)



Situation Update.

- Approximately **4.6 million** people in Somalia are facing high levels of food insecurity. Of these, almost 800,000 are experiencing emergency levels of food insecurity (IPC 4). Malnutrition rates are high, with 1.8 million children requiring nutrition support to address acute malnutrition. This situation is exacerbated by a confluence of factors, including dwindling humanitarian aid, ongoing clashes in some regions, [climatic shocks](#), and economic challenges.
- Reduced funding has resulted in prioritisation and scaling back of humanitarian assistance, further worsening food insecurity, especially for already vulnerable IDPs. Additional funding of up to US\$ 266 million is needed to sustain food assistance in Somalia, prevent worsening food insecurity and malnutrition, and protect the livelihoods of vulnerable communities.

Operational Updates

Humanitarian Food Assistance

- In June, WFP prioritized its limited resources to deliver lifesaving food assistance to 844,000 of the most vulnerable people across Somalia. This support was delivered through cash-based transfers totalling US\$ 5.4 million and 2,184 mt of in-kind food, ensuring critical humanitarian assistance in areas most affected by food insecurity.
- WFP continues to provide technical support to the Somalia Disaster Management agency (SoDMA) in reviewing the National Disaster Management Policy. This consultative process has brought together a wide range of stakeholders from both national and sub-national levels. The review identified critical gaps in policy coherence, institutional coordination, climate and conflict sensitivity, inclusive risk management, and sustainable financing. Based on these findings, a set of actionable recommendations were developed to inform the revision of a more inclusive disaster management policy framework. This process lays the foundation for a comprehensive disaster management plan, with clearly defined sectoral roles and responsibilities, enhancing Somalia's preparedness and response capacity in the face of future shocks.

Nutrition Support

- In June, WFP assisted 136,000 children under five and pregnant and breastfeeding women and girls with 410 mt of specialised nutritious foods to manage acute malnutrition.
- WFP played a key technical role in finalising and adapting Somalia's Integrated Management of Acute Malnutrition (IMAM) guidelines, ensuring alignment with WHO recommendations and relevance to the Somali context. Working closely with the IMAM Taskforce and key stakeholders, WFP supported a comprehensive review to

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	2.3 billion	266 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

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

Country Director: El-Khidir Daloum

Further information: www.wfp.org/countries/somalia

Twitter: @WFPSomalia

enhance the guidelines’ practicality, effectiveness, and applicability. This technical contribution is expected to strengthen the quality of nutrition services across Somalia.

Targeting Approaches

- WFP Somalia is progressively transitioning towards Vulnerability-Based Targeting (VBT) to enhance the fairness and accuracy in delivery of assistance, reduce inclusion and exclusion errors, and minimise the risk of aid diversion. Initially piloted in Baidoa and Dollow across 61 sites covering both IDPs and host communities, VBT was expanded to nine locations in June. These gains are now embedded in system-wide coordination efforts with humanitarian partners and government counterparts, setting a new national benchmark for evidence-based targeting.

Food Systems

- To strengthen resilience and enhance food security, WFP supported 22,000 smallholder farmers through a variety of agricultural and market support activities. These included training on agricultural practices, provision of seeds and farming equipment and establishment of village savings and loan associations (VSLAs).
- WFP, supported by the Global Agriculture and Food Security Programme (GAFSP), convened a high-level Steering Committee Meeting to review its field implementation coordination framework. The meeting brought together 23 cooperatives from Jowhar and Hirshabelle, alongside representatives from the Federal and State Ministries of Agriculture. This engagement aims to strengthen collective ownership, foster collaboration, and reinforce efforts to enhance cooperative governance, market access, and resilience within Somalia’s food system.

UNHAS and Logistics Cluster:

- UN Humanitarian Air Service (UNHAS) transported a total of 609 passengers across Somalia, and 27 mt of cargo (non-food items and medical supplies). To sustain life-saving operations, the WFP-led on-demand services expanded to four locations, supporting three partners with storage and one with transport. Humanitarian air access was maintained to flood-affected and insecure areas, enabling delivery of essential cargo, including WASH, health, and education supplies.

Funding

- WFP thanks all donors supporting efforts to address food insecurity and malnutrition in Somalia. For the next six months (July-December 2025). WFP Somalia faces a US\$ **266** million funding gap across all its activities, representing **68** percent of the requirements. The urgent funding shortfall for life-saving humanitarian food assistance and nutrition support stands at US\$ **234** million, **73** percent of the requirements.

Donors

Austria, 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.