

# WFP Somalia

## Country Brief

### August 2025



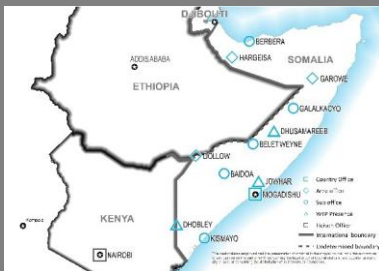
#### Operational Context

Somalia faces complex challenges of protracted conflict, limited social services and escalating climate shocks. With an estimated population of **19.3 million**, 6 million people are likely to require life-saving 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 over 3.3 million children (65%) 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: **4.4 million** (IPC 3 & above between Oct–Dec 2025)

National global acute malnutrition rate: **14.3 percent (serious)**

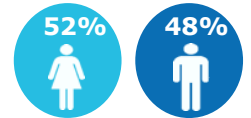
#### In Numbers

**1.7 million** people assisted

**USD 11.4 million** delivered via cash-based transfers

**4,146 mt** of in-kind food assistance distributed

**USD 98 million** six months net funding requirements (October 2025 – March 2026)



#### Situation Update

- Acute food insecurity is [projected to worsen](#) through January 2026, particularly in northern and central Somalia, driven by consecutive below-average rainfall seasons and ongoing conflict in the Southern and central parts of the country. A forecasted weak La Niña are expected to result in a below-average Deyr 2025 rainy season, leading to crop failure, livestock losses, and increased displacement. Jubaland, Southwest State, Hirshabelle, and Galmudug regions will be most affected.
- Somalia's humanitarian crisis is worsening, while the capacity to respond remains critically limited due to funding challenges. As of August 2025, the Humanitarian Needs and Response Plan (HNRP) had received [less than 20 percent](#), forcing agencies to scale down assistance. WFP reduced monthly coverage of life-saving assistance from 2.2 million in 2024 to 1.4 million in August 2025 and will fall to 820,000 by November if no additional funding is received. Internally displaced persons, women, children, and other vulnerable groups are bearing the brunt of these cuts, facing heightened risks of food insecurity and malnutrition concerns in an already fragile environment.

#### Operational Updates

##### Humanitarian Food Assistance

- In August, WFP prioritized limited resources to deliver lifesaving food assistance to the most vulnerable in Somalia, reaching 1.4 people with USD 10.4 million in cash-based transfers and 3,265 mt of in-kind food.
- In response to the deteriorating humanitarian situation in Hiraa, WFP intensified its strategic engagement with the food security cluster and key operational partners to enhance coordination and maximize the collective impact of the humanitarian response. As a result, priority intervention sites were identified, enabling a more effective and timely response. WFP plans to reach 18,000 people through in-kind assistance for six months from September 2025 to February 2026.

##### Nutrition Support:

- In August WFP provided nutrition support to 267,000 children under five and pregnant and breastfeeding women and girls through distribution of 881 mt of specialised nutritious foods to prevent and treat malnutrition.
- The finalised Fill the Nutrient Gap (FNG) study for Somalia revealed that nearly half of Somali households cannot afford a nutrient-adequate diet, with northern regions most affected. In parallel, WFP and UNICEF are intensifying their partnership through the Joint Action to Stop Wasting (JASW), focusing on integrated service delivery, maternal nutrition, and locally driven solutions.
- Due to current funding shortfalls, WFP's supply for specialized nutritious food (Ready-to-Use Supplementary Food (RUSF)) will run until mid-October. To continue providing life-saving nutrition support and manage malnutrition among women and children, additional funding of USD 16 million is needed through February 2026.

##### Shock Response Social Protection

WFP Country Strategy

Country strategic plan (2022-2025)

Total requirement (In USD)	Allocated contributions (in USD)	Six-month net funding requirements (in USD)
3.9 billion	2.3 billion	98 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 Mahamud

**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

- WFP is providing technical and financial support to the Ministry of Labour and Social Affairs and the Somali Disaster Management Agency for the development of a shock response social protection (SRSP) policy and implementation framework for Somalia. As part of this engagement, WFP has completed the sensitization and assessment stages. Preliminary findings reveal gaps in coherence between disaster risk management and social protection strategies, limited integration of early warning systems, and underutilization of the national social registry. Key recommendations include establishing a national SRSP framework, strengthening governance and coordination, integrating data systems, and pre-arranging financing, critical for effective and timely shock response.

Home-Grown School Feeding

- With schools reopening between August and September, WFP and the Ministry of Education (MoE) are partnering to provide nutritious, locally sourced meals to over 115,000 children in 448 schools. This is guided by the National School Feeding Policy endorsed on 24 August in Jowhar. The policy was launched with support from WFP and federal and state MoE. WFP will collaborate with the Ministry in 2026 to develop implementation guidelines, crucial for translating policy into action and ensuring, equitable access to quality school meals nationwide.

Food Systems

- In August, WFP supported 22,000 smallholder farmers through agricultural and market support, including training on agricultural practices, seed and equipment provision, and establishing village savings and loan associations (VSLAs).
- WFP held high-level strategic engagement with the Federal Ministry of Agriculture and Irrigation to align priorities and jointly launch Agriculture Sector Coordination. A new collaborative mechanism for project design and implementation was introduced to enhance delivery and accountability. Both parties reaffirmed their commitment to strengthening agricultural service capacity and advancing sustainable development in Somalia.

UNHAS and Logistics Cluster

- In August, UNHAS transported 825 passengers, 29 mt of medical and non-food cargo to 19 destinations across Somalia, including hard-to-reach areas, supporting 48 organizations.
- The WFP-led Logistics Cluster supported humanitarian operations in August by airlifting 274 mt of relief cargo, including WASH, Health, Nutrition, and Shelter/NFI items, to nine hard-to-reach locations, and providing 247 mt of transit storage at Mogadishu Airport. These efforts reinforced the Cluster’s critical role in overcoming logistical barriers and ensuring the timely delivery of life-saving assistance in high-risk and underserved areas.

Funding

- WFP thanks all donors for their continued support in addressing food insecurity and malnutrition in Somalia. From October 2025 to March 2026, WFP faces a USD 98 million funding gap, representing 50 percent of overall requirement.
- WFP’s funding requirements have been revised to reflect the needs of prioritized populations in greatest need, allowing WFP to focus available scarce resources on critical life-saving interventions. Despite this reprioritization, an urgent shortfall of USD 91 million remains for humanitarian food assistance and nutrition support representing 58 percent of the requirements.

Donors

Austria, Canada, Denmark, European Union, FCDO, 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, UN SDG Fund, United Kingdom, USA.