



World Food
Programme

WFP Somalia Country Brief November 2025



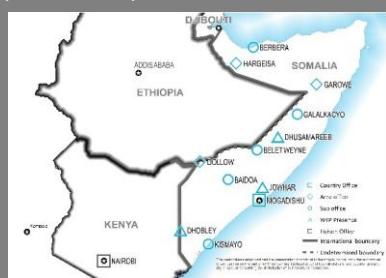
Operational Context

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.

The country's security remains fragile. Since January 2025, the African Union Support and Stabilization Mission in Somalia (AUSSOM) has been involved in Somali-led efforts for stabilization and peacebuilding.

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

981,000 people assisted

USD 5 million delivered via cash-based transfers

4,933 mt of in-kind food assistance distributed

USD 129 million six months net funding requirements (January - June 2026)

Situation Update

- Somalia is experiencing a rapidly escalating drought emergency, with the failure of the 2025 Deyr rains and persistent high temperatures leading to severe water and food shortages, widespread crop failure, and significant livestock losses across multiple regions. The Federal Government declared a national drought emergency in November as drought conditions spread to both northern and southern areas, triggering mass displacement, surging water prices, and the closure of schools and health facilities. Nearly [4.4 million](#) Somalis, almost a quarter of the population, are projected to face acute food insecurity (IPC Phase 3 or worse), and [1.85 million](#) children under five are at risk of acute malnutrition. Vulnerable groups, including women, children, and persons with disabilities, are disproportionately affected, with many communities facing critical shortages of essential services and protection risks.
- The humanitarian response is severely constrained by funding shortfalls, as of late November, only [23.4%](#) of the 2025 Humanitarian Needs and Response Plan is funded, forcing agencies to scale back or close critical programmes. Urgent resource mobilization is needed to avert further loss of life and address the escalating crisis.

Operational Updates

Humanitarian Food Assistance

- WFP provided life-saving food assistance to 442,000 people across Somalia in November, delivering USD 3.3 million in cash-based transfers and 4,048 mt of in-kind food to vulnerable communities.
- Funding shortfalls have limited WFP's ability to assist the most vulnerable, with life-saving support reaching only 500,000 people, less than one in ten of those in need. Since November 2025, cash-based transfers have been reduced by over 80 percent, severely impacting IPC Phase 4 areas where cash remains the only viable delivery option due to access constraints. As a result, WFP is currently assisting just 30 percent of the IPC Phase 4 population.

Nutrition Support

- In November, WFP provided specialized nutrition support to 371,000 children under five and pregnant and breastfeeding women and girls to prevent and manage acute malnutrition.
- WFP is working closely with the Government of Somalia, and partners to advance evidence-based nutrition planning aligned with the National Transformation Plan (2025–2029). The Fill the Nutrient Gap (FNG) analysis, led by WFP, revealed that nearly half of Somali households cannot afford a nutritious diet, leaving vulnerable group, including young children, adolescent girls, and breastfeeding women, facing significant nutrition challenges. Through a multi-sectoral process involving government, UN agencies and development partners, recommendations have been finalized to guide integrated actions that strengthen food systems, improve affordability and ensure equitable access to nutritious diet. These efforts aim to create a strong foundation for long-term nutrition resilience.

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	129 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-UNICEF/Arete/Ahmed Luzako

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

Country Director: El-Khidir Daloum

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

Twitter: @WFPSomalia

Home-Grown School Feeding

- During the month of November, WFP's school meals programme reached 120,000 schoolchildren, nutritious meals that support both learning and well-being. By sourcing food locally, the programme injected nearly USD 878,000 into the local economy, supporting smallholder farmers and strengthening local food systems.
- Somali National Teachers' Day marked a significant milestone in advancing child nutrition and education, as President Hassan Sheikh Mohamud reaffirmed the Government's commitment to expand school meals nationwide. This pledge strengthens Somalia's engagement with the Global School Meals Coalition and highlights the importance of joint action between government and humanitarian partners to create inclusive learning environments. By ensuring that every child receives a nutritious meal at school, Somalia is investing in improved learning outcomes, better health, and stronger community resilience. WFP will continue to support these efforts by scaling up programme coverage and embedding school feeding within national education and social protection strategies, reinforcing the foundation for sustainable progress.

Food Systems

- In November, 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).
- At COP30 in Belém, Brazil, WFP emphasized the urgent need to place food systems at the centre of global climate action, as climate shocks remain a leading driver of hunger. Somalia's delegation actively engaged in dialogues on adaptation finance and resilience, reinforcing WFP's advocacy for scaled-up resources to protect food-insecure communities. WFP showcased its ongoing efforts to strengthen local food systems, including home-grown school meals, risk financing for farmers, and improved market access for smallholders, critical pillars for achieving long-term food security and climate resilience.

UNHAS and Logistics Cluster

- In November, UNHAS transported 833 passengers and 7.5 mt of medical and non-food cargo to 19 destinations across Somalia, including hard-to-reach areas, enabling operations for 59 organizations.
- The WFP-led Logistics Cluster delivered 65.4 mt of essential relief supplies, including WASH, Health and Nutrition to seven hard-to-reach locations and provided storage for 171.7 mt of goods across six strategic hubs to enable partners to sustain last-mile delivery.

Funding

- WFP thanks all donors for their continued support in addressing food insecurity and malnutrition in Somalia. From January - June 2026, WFP faces a **USD 129 million** funding gap, representing **63 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 122.5 million** remains for humanitarian food assistance and nutrition support representing **73 percent** of the requirements.

Donors

Ajram Foundation, Austria, Canada, Denmark, European Union, Federal Government of Somalia, France, Germany, Global Agriculture and Food Security Programme (GAFSP), Japan, JAWFP, Republic of Korea, Saudi Arabia, Spain, Sweden, Switzerland, UN CERF, UN SDG Fund, United Kingdom (FCDO), USA, Zoetis Foundation.