

In Numbers

967,000 people assisted

USD 11 million delivered via cash-based transfers

4,726 mt of in-kind food assistance distributed

USD 90 million six months net funding requirements (February - July 2026)

Situation Update

- Somalia is facing an escalating drought crisis after failed rains, leaving water sources depleted and crops destroyed. Widespread livestock deaths have eliminated the primary source of income for many families, driving already vulnerable households into deeper crisis. As conditions deteriorate, more people are being forced to leave their homes in search of water and food, with at least 325,000 people displaced between October and December and projections indicating over **211,000** additional displacements between December 2025 and March 2026. This displacement is placing heavy pressure on already overstretched host communities, intensifying competition for limited resources and heightening protection risks, especially for women and children. Critically low funding is preventing humanitarian partners from keeping pace with rising needs. Humanitarian organizations have been forced to cut life-saving assistance just as hunger and malnutrition surge: Nearly **4.4 million** people, almost a quarter of Somalia's population, face acute food insecurity, and **1.85 million** children under five are malnourished. Without urgent funding, conditions will deteriorate further.

Operational Updates

Humanitarian Food Assistance

- WFP provided life-saving food assistance to 615,000 people across Somalia in December, delivering USD 9.5 million in cash-based transfers and 4,230 mt of in-kind food to vulnerable communities.
- WFP remains committed to supporting those in greatest need and delivers 90 percent of all food assistance in Somalia. Due to a major funding reduction, WFP's coverage has reduced from 1.1 million people reached every month in early 2025 to only 600,000 in December 2025 and WFP only has resources to reach less than 1 in 7 Somalis in critical need. Without new funding, relief pipelines will fully break by April 2026, halting lifesaving operations.

Nutrition Support

- In December, WFP provided specialized nutrition support to 177,000 children under five and pregnant and breastfeeding women and girls to prevent and manage acute malnutrition.
- To strengthen national nutrition leadership, WFP worked with UNICEF and the Office of the Prime Minister to reactivate the UN Nutrition Network, which reconvened in December 2025. As co-chair, WFP helped define the 2026 priorities: focusing on joint advocacy, strengthened evidence generation – building on the Fill the Nutrient Gap analysis and food systems studies – and the development of a multisectoral nutrition strategy.

Social Protection

- WFP continued to play a central role in advancing Somalia's leadership of shock-responsive social protection during the 2025 drought, ensuring that national systems could respond more effectively to rapidly evolving needs. Through joint efforts, 600,000 drought affected people received timely assistance, including 18,000 people supported

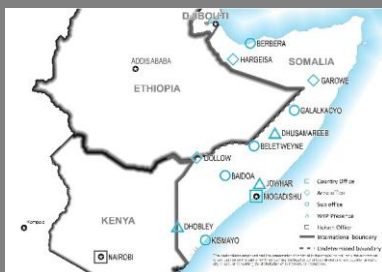
Operational Context

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)

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	2.4 billion	90 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
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directly through government systems for the first time, a key step toward nationally led crisis response. WFP partnered with the Ministry of Labour and Social Affairs and the Somali Disaster Management Agency to strengthen coordination and develop joint operating procedures, building a more unified national approach to shock response. These investments are strengthening support to communities when shocks occur.

Home-Grown School Feeding

- WFP’s school meals programme assisted 120,000 children in December, providing nutritious meals that support learning and well-being. By sourcing food locally, the programme injected nearly USD 800,000 into the economy, benefiting smallholder farmers and strengthening local food systems.
- Building on this progress, WFP and the Government advanced the transition to nationally led, home-grown school meals. The Government confirmed its first federal budget allocation for school meals, a USD 5 million commitment for 2026, marking a significant step toward national ownership following the endorsement of the National School Feeding Policy in 2025.

Food Systems

- In December, 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 strengthened Somalia’s climate-smart food systems and national capacities through policy support, evidence generation, and multi-year investments, while expanding partnerships and financing. Together with national authorities, WFP validated Somalia’s drought anticipatory action model and co-hosted the first National Anticipatory Action Dialogue with the Somali Disaster Management Agency to advance disaster preparedness.
- In 2025, WFP supported over 60,000 farmers and 40 cooperatives, improving access to climate-resilient inputs, markets, and infrastructure. Policy and technical initiatives, including efforts promoting fish consumption, are fostering sustainable production and diversified diets. Combined with anticipatory approaches, these actions strengthen resilience, attract investment, and safeguard livelihoods and food availability.

UNHAS and Logistics Cluster

- In December, UNHAS transported 535 passengers and 18.5 mt of medical and non-food cargo to 24 destinations across Somalia, including hard-to-reach areas, enabling operations for 45 organizations.
- The WFP-led Logistics Cluster delivered 122 mt of essential relief supplies, including WASH, Health and Nutrition to seven hard-to-reach locations and provided storage for 201 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 February - July 2026, WFP faces a USD 90 million funding gap, representing 55 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 79 million remains for humanitarian food assistance and nutrition support representing 67 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, Luxembourg, Republic of Korea, Saudi Arabia, Spain, Sweden, Switzerland, UN CERF, UN SDG Fund, United Kingdom (FCDO), USA and Zoetis Foundation.