



WFP SOMALIA



COUNTRY BRIEF
February 2026

KEY HIGHLIGHTS

- Humanitarian needs are escalating as drought, conflict, and shrinking funding worsen food security conditions.
- An estimated 6.5 million people projected to face IPC Phase 3 or above (Crisis or worse) between February and March 2026, nearly double the 3.4 million recorded in the first quarter of 2025. Of these, over 2 million people are in IPC Phase 4 (Emergency).
- WFP provided life-saving food assistance to 838,000 people in January; however, WFP operations are facing severe funding constraints with food assistance potentially halting by April 2026 without new funding.

IN NUMBERS



1.2 million people assisted in January



5,192 mt food distributed



USD 8.7 million cash transferred



USD 95M (Feb- July 2026) net funding requirements

Photo Caption & Credit: © WFP/Arete/Utaama Mahamud

SITUATION OVERVIEW

- Somalia is facing a rapidly deteriorating humanitarian situation driven by prolonged drought, below average rainfall, escalating conflict, displacements, and a sharp reduction in humanitarian funding.
- The [latest IPC analysis](#) shows a sharp deterioration in food security across Somalia with an estimated 6.5 million people projected to face IPC Phase 3 or above (Crisis or worse) between February and March 2026. This is nearly double the 3.4 million recorded in the first quarter of 2025. Of these, over 2 million people are in IPC Phase 4 (Emergency).
- Malnutrition levels are at critical levels with an estimated 1.84 million children aged 6-59 months projected to be acutely malnourished, including 483,000 children expected to face severe acute malnutrition. The situation is expected to worsen due to increased disease incidence during the rainy season and reduced access to treatment services following the closure of 125 severe acute malnutrition sites and 360 moderate acute malnutrition sites due to funding shortages.
- In parallel, severe drought in Bay, Bakool, and Gedo continues to drive water scarcity, rangeland degradation, and livestock deaths, eroding pastoral livelihoods.
- Humanitarian capacity is heavily constrained; due to reduced funding, WFP food assistance was reduced by over half, currently reaching only 600,000 people.
- The [2026 Humanitarian Needs and Response Plan](#) (HNRP) indicates that 4.8 million people are in need of life-saving humanitarian assistance. However, significant resource gaps persist, limiting the ability to maintain or scale critical humanitarian services.

OPERATIONAL UPDATES

Humanitarian Food Assistance

- WFP provided life-saving food assistance to 838,000 people across Somalia in January, delivering USD 7.9 million in cash-based transfers and 4,712 mt of in-kind food to vulnerable food insecure communities.
- Due to severe funding constraints assistance levels and coverage are expected to decline and come to a near halt by April 2026, unless new funding is received. This projected reduction represents a major decrease in operational capacity and highlights the urgent need for additional resources to sustain life-saving support for communities facing emergency food insecurity.

Nutrition Support

- In January, WFP provided specialized nutritious foods to 158,000 children under five and pregnant and breastfeeding women and girls to prevent and manage acute malnutrition.
- As part of integration and strengthening continuum of care, 94 percent of WFP-supported nutrition centres are now co-located with UNICEF facilities through joint WFP–UNICEF nutrition site mapping. This alignment is particularly critical in the context of intensifying drought and limited resources, enabling more efficient service delivery, and sustained access to life-saving nutrition services for the most vulnerable families.

Social Protection

- Somalia is transitioning toward a nationally led social protection system with the launch of the new phase of social protection programme dubbed *BOOST-YOU* phase. WFP supported the Ministry of Labour and Social Affairs (MoLSA) as it took on the direct delivery of the programme, marking an important shift in government ownership. The MoLSA and SODMA convened federal member states, INGOs, and private-sector partners to review lessons learned and advance the development of standard operational guidelines for shock-responsive social protection, aligned with disaster risk reduction structures laying the foundation for a more coherent and predictable safety net for vulnerable households during crises.

Home-Grown School Feeding

- WFP's school meals programme assisted 116,000 children in January, providing nutritious meals that support learning and attendance. By sourcing food locally, the programme injected nearly USD 439,000 into the economy, benefiting smallholder farmers and strengthening local food systems.
- Under the Joint Resilience Programme (JRP), WFP strengthened school meals delivery through the completion of 22 kitchens, stores, and dining halls in Galmudug and Puntland. Facilities in Galmudug have been handed over to government, with Puntland sites

nearing operationalization. These investments improve the reliability and quality of school meals for 37,000 students, while supporting safer learning environments.

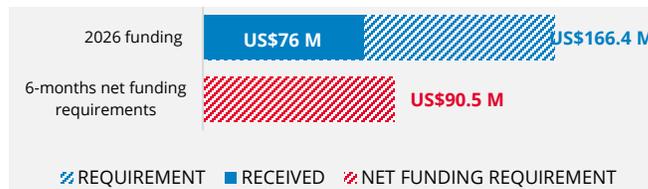
Food Systems

- 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 also convened the Steering Committee of the Global Agriculture and Food Security Programme (GAFSP), strengthening coordination and oversight of food-systems investments by bringing together key national and local stakeholders, including the Federal Ministry of Agriculture and cooperatives from Hirshabelle. The forum reinforced national leadership and alignment around priorities for 2026 to support more resilient, inclusive, and shock-responsive food systems.

UNHAS and Logistics Cluster

- In January, UNHAS transported 519 passengers and 12 mt of cargo to 20 destinations across Somalia, including hard-to-reach areas, enabling operations for 41 organizations.
- The WFP-led Logistics Cluster delivered 72 mt of essential relief supplies to seven hard-to-reach locations and provided storage for 138 mt of goods across six strategic hubs to enable partners to sustain last-mile delivery.

FUNDING OVERVIEW



- WFP thanks all donors for their continued support in addressing food insecurity and malnutrition in Somalia. From February–July 2026, WFP faces a USD 95 million funding gap, representing 57 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 73 million remains for humanitarian food assistance and nutrition support representing 63 percent of the requirements

Donors:

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