



World Food Programme

SAVING
LIVES
CHANGING
LIVES

WFP SOMALIA COUNTRY BRIEF



October 2026



562,000 people assisted in September (56% female)



796 mt food distributed in September



USD 3.8 million cash transferred in September



USD 185 million required in the next six months (November 2026 – April 2027)

KEY HIGHLIGHTS

- An estimated [5.4 million](#) people are projected to face crisis levels of hunger or worse (IPC 3+) between October and December 2026, including nearly 1.5 million people in emergency levels of hunger (IPC 4).
- Nearly two million children under five are expected to suffer acute malnutrition, including 433,000 facing severe acute malnutrition, while 90 percent of the 1.48 million children facing moderate acute malnutrition are expected to lose access to support from October onwards.
- Baidoa remains a major humanitarian concern, with an estimated 26,000 internally displaced people projected to face Catastrophe (IPC Phase 5) and remain at risk of Famine. Recent clashes have displaced more than 5,000 people, further compounding humanitarian needs among already vulnerable displaced communities.
- Humanitarian food assistance is projected to reach less than 5 percent of the people facing crisis levels of hunger or worse (IPC 3+), with further declines expected during the October–December period. Additional resources are urgently needed to sustain assistance and protect hard-won gains in food security and resilience.

SITUATION OVERVIEW

- Flood risks are intensifying across Somalia, including Hiiraan, Mudug, Nugaal, and Galgaduud regions as the Deyr season progresses. Riverine and flash flooding already affected communities, livelihoods, essential services and humanitarian access, causing displacement and infrastructure damage. Water levels continue to rise along the Shabelle and Juba rivers, increasing flood risks in vulnerable riverine areas.
- Following forecasts that all four monitored stations on the Juba River are expected to exceed activation thresholds, [OCHA activated](#) the anticipatory action readiness phase for riverine flooding on 15 October, enabling humanitarian partners to scale up preparedness and early response measures ahead of anticipated impacts.
- WFP is scaling up anticipatory action and preparedness financing ahead of El Niño-related flooding, including pre-positioning assistance, protecting critical access routes, and sustaining essential health, nutrition, and WASH services. WFP requires over USD 65 million for its El Niño preparedness and response plan, including anticipatory actions, targeting approximately 1.3 million people exposed to flood risks.
- Food access remains a growing concern despite largely functional markets. [WFP market analysis](#) indicates that household food stocks are expected to be depleted within the next two to three months, while purchasing power continues to decline. A day's wage now buys 24 percent less sorghum than a year ago, while livestock purchasing power has fallen by 11 percent. Diesel prices remain 19 percent higher than last year, increasing transport and water costs and placing additional pressure on vulnerable households, particularly in drought and displacement-affected communities.

OPERATIONAL UPDATES

Humanitarian Food Assistance

- WFP provided lifesaving food assistance to 228,000 people across Somalia in September, delivering USD 3.7 million in cash-based transfers. Reduced funding continued to constrain assistance levels despite growing needs.
- WFP and the Somali Disaster Management Agency (SoDMA) signed a Strategic Partnership Framework and LoU (2026-2030), reinforcing government leadership and strengthening collaboration on disaster risk management, early warning, anticipatory action, emergency response, and resilience-building initiatives. The agreement enhances government-led coordination and preparedness for humanitarian and climate-related shocks across Somalia.

Nutrition

- In September, WFP provided specialized nutritious foods to 204,000 children under five and pregnant and breastfeeding women and girls to prevent and manage acute malnutrition. Reduced funding continued to affect nutrition programme reach.
- The Federal Government of Somalia, with support from WFP and partners validated the National Nutrition Policy 2026-2030, a major milestone in advancing a coordinated, government-led response to malnutrition. The policy establishes priorities for improving nutrition services, strengthening climate resilience, promoting nutrition-sensitive systems, and enhancing governance and financing for nutrition, providing the foundation for a multisectoral approach to addressing malnutrition.

Home-Grown School Feeding

- WFP supported 76,000 school children in September, providing nutritious meals to enhance learning outcomes and attendance. Through local procurement, the programme injected nearly USD 120,000 into the economy, benefiting smallholder farmers and strengthening local food systems.
- WFP and the Federal Ministry of Education showcased Somalia's experience in delivering school meals in fragile and climate-vulnerable contexts at the global School Meals Coalition Partners event. The engagement highlighted progress in strengthening national school meals systems, government leadership, and human capital development.

Social Protection

- WFP, the World Bank, and the Ministry of Labour and Social Affairs (MoLSA) convened a high-level implementation mission under the BOOST-YOU programme, a strategic initiative designed to strengthen government-led social protection systems. The programme aims to enhance shock-responsive assistance, improve preparedness for climate-related shocks, and strengthen resilience among vulnerable households.

Food Systems

- In September, WFP supported 55,000 smallholder farmers through agricultural and market-support initiatives, strengthening production, market access, and livelihoods. WFP also continued to advance climate-smart food systems through investments in sustainable agriculture and climate adaptation.
- In Somaliland, the country's first climate microinsurance pilot was launched across nine communities, helping vulnerable households better manage climate shocks and protect livelihoods.

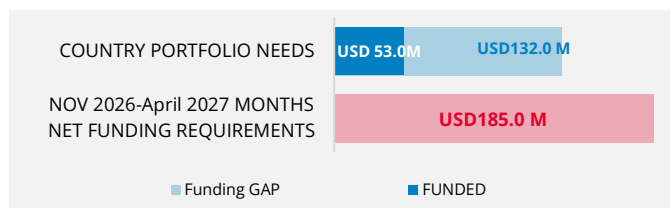
UNHAS and Logistics Cluster

- In September, UNHAS transported 854 passengers and 117.6 mt of non-food and medical cargo for 49 organizations across 24 destinations, supporting humanitarian access and preparedness ahead of anticipated El Niño-related flooding.
- The WFP-led Logistics Cluster facilitated the delivery of 203 mt of humanitarian cargo and provided 526 m³ of storage support across 12 hard-to-reach locations, helping sustain relief operations ahead of the anticipated El Niño season. The Cluster also trained 70 frontline responders from humanitarian partners and government institutions in Hiiraan and Jubaland, strengthening flood preparedness, coordination, and local response capacity.

FUNDING OVERVIEW

Somalia country strategic plan (2026-2030)

- WFP thanks all donors for their continued support in addressing food insecurity and malnutrition in Somalia. WFP requires USD 132 million (71 percent of total needs) for the next six months (November 2026-April 2027) for its planned CSP activities.
- Despite reprioritization to focus on the most vulnerable, WFP faces an urgent shortfall of USD 122 million specifically for humanitarian food and nutrition assistance.
- Immediate funding is critical to sustain life-saving operations and prevent further deterioration in food security and malnutrition.



Donors

African Development Bank (AfDB), African Risk Capacity (ARC), Ajram Foundation, Canada, CERF, Denmark, ECHO, EU, France, GAFSP, Germany, Government of Somalia, Japan, Norway, Novo Nordisk Foundation, OCHA, Qatar, Republic of Korea (RoK), Sweden, Switzerland, UK, UN SDG Fund, USG, WFP USA, Zoetis.

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