



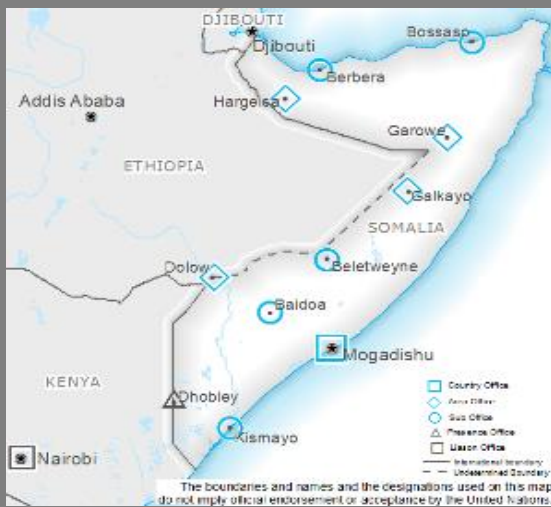
WFP Somalia Country Brief

March 2018

Operational Context

After more than two decades of political and economic instability, over half of the country's population lives below the poverty line. Somalia's economy is highly dependent on imports, creating a large trade deficit that is financed by remittances and international aid. Although considerable political progress has been made since the establishment of the Federal Government of Somalia (FGS) in 2012, the country still struggles with fragmented and weak governance and institutional systems, clan conflicts and widespread insecurity, as well as poor health and education infrastructure and services. Gender inequality in Somalia is the fourth highest globally, with high levels of gender based violence, child marriage, and maternal mortality. Security conditions in Somalia are extremely fluid especially in south central Somalia where many areas are still not accessible.

WFP Somalia Country Office has been operating from Nairobi since 1995 but transitioned to a Liaison Office in February 2015 when WFP re-opened the Somalia Country Office in Mogadishu for the first time in 20 years.



The boundaries and names and the designations used on this map do not imply official endorsement or acceptance by the United Nations.

Population: **12.3 million**

Internally Displaced persons (IDPs): **2 million**

People facing acute food crisis: **2.7 million** (IPC 3 & 4, Feb-Jun 2018)

Mortality rate (per 1000 births) - children under five: **145**

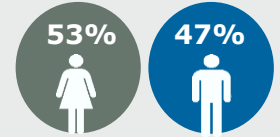
In Numbers

6,437 mt of food assistance distributed

US\$4.2 m cash based transfers made

US\$128.2 m six months (April-September 2018) net funding requirements

1.13 m people assisted in March 2018



Operational Updates

- Although the Deyr rains (October – December 2017) were better than projected and large scale humanitarian assistance managed to avert famine, recovery of livelihood and livestock assets in northern and central Somalia to pre-crisis level will require several consecutive good seasons (*Somalia Food Outlook February – September 2018*, FEWSNET and FSNAU, March 2018).
- With the Gu 2018 rainy season expected to be average across most parts of the country, populations in Awdal, Sool, Sanaag and Bari in the north, as well as Mudug and Galgaduud in central Somalia are particularly likely to face reduced access to food and income from agricultural labour, crop production and livestock sales. Abnormal livestock deaths have been reported in Awdal leaving poor families with extreme loss of income. The majority of households in this region are expected to be in emergency phase until June 2018.
- In March, prices of imported food commodities (rice, sugar, vegetable oil, wheat flour) remained relatively stable across the country, except in Somaliland where prices of imported staple foods have risen above average due to the devaluation of the Somaliland shilling against the US dollar, impacting the purchasing power of poor households in the region.
- In March, WFP reached 1.13 million people across Somalia with food and nutrition assistance. This includes: 375,000 people who received assistance through cash-based transfers worth US\$ 4.2 million, as well as 271,000 mothers and children reached with treatment and preventive nutrition assistance.
- WFP's Humanitarian Air Service (UNHAS) transported 3,617 passengers and 23 mt of cargo to 19 locations inside Somalia, serving 106 UN, diplomatic and media agencies as well as non-governmental organisations (NGOs).

Main Photo

Credit: ©WFP/Karel Prinsloo
Caption: Jama Abdullahi learns to do plumbing at a vocational training centre supported by WFP in Kismayo.

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	Total Requirements (in USD)	Confirmed Contributions (in USD)	6 Month Net Funding Requirements (in USD) *
Reducing Malnutrition and Strengthening Resilience to Shocks for a Food-Secure Somalia			
PRRO 200844 (Jan 16 - Dec 18)	1.23 billion	694 m (62%)	128.2 m
Provision of Humanitarian Air Services in Somalia and Kenya			
SO 200924 (Jan 16 - Dec 18)	84 m	63 m (75%)	2.6 m
Emergency Rehabilitation Work and Capacity strengthening at the Port of Kismayo			
PRRO 201051: (Jan 17 - May 2018)	1.6 m	1.1 m (69%)	0.5 m

*April 2018 – September 2018



Monitoring

In February¹, WFP monitored 716 food distribution sites (FDPs) out of the 2,422 active FDPs in Somalia through on-site visits, achieving 30 percent coverage.

WFP continued to effectively utilize its call centre for both process and outcome monitoring through phone interviews. In March 2018, the call centre enumerators made 880 outgoing calls as part of WFP's drought response outcome monitoring and in-kind process monitoring. In addition, the Complaints and Feedback Mechanism (CFM) operated by the call centre received 974 incoming calls from beneficiaries (57 percent of who were women) who enquired about WFP assistance and gave feedback on interventions.

¹M&E reports are released one month after collection of data for WFP to conduct analysis.

Challenges

- Humanitarian needs in Somalia remain very high, posing a risk against the gains made to prevent famine in 2017, especially if emergency relief efforts are not sustained. However, resource shortfalls continue to impact WFP's ability to provide assistance to all those in need.
- WFP requires US\$ 128.2 million to continue providing assistance to people in Crisis or Emergency (IPC Phases 3 and 4) as well as children and women in need of nutrition support between now and September 2018.

Donors

PRRO 200844: USA, Canada, Germany, Japan, United Kingdom, Finland, Switzerland, Norway, Sweden, Republic of Korea, Hungary, CERF, Italy, ECHO, China, Slovenia, Australia, Luxembourg, Lithuania, Belgium, France, OPEC Fund for International Development, Czech Republic, Liechtenstein Australia, Saudi Arabia and New Zealand.

SO 200924: Canada, UK, USA, Germany, Norway and CERF

SO 201051: Italy