

# SOMALIA - COMPLEX EMERGENCY

FACT SHEET #1, FISCAL YEAR (FY) 2019

MARCH 20, 2019

## NUMBERS AT A GLANCE

**4.2 million**

People in Somalia Requiring Humanitarian Assistance  
UN – January 2019

**1.5 million**

People in Somalia Experiencing Crisis or Emergency Levels of Acute Food Insecurity  
FEWS NET, FSNAU – February 2019

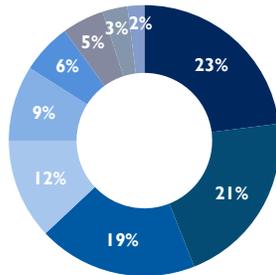
**2.6 million**

Number of IDPs in Somalia  
UN – January 2019

**806,680**

Somali Refugees in Neighboring Countries  
UNHCR – February 2019

## USAID/OFDA<sup>1</sup> FUNDING BY SECTOR IN FY 2018–2019



- Health (23%)
- Agriculture & Food Security (21%)
- Water, Sanitation & Hygiene (19%)
- Nutrition (12%)
- Protection (9%)
- Humanitarian Coordination & Information Management (6%)
- Economic Recovery & Market Systems (5%)
- Other (3%)
- Logistics Support & Relief Commodities (2%)

## USAID/FFP<sup>2</sup> FUNDING BY MODALITY IN FY 2018–2019



- U.S. In-Kind Food Aid (47%)
- Cash Transfers for Food (45%)
- Local & Regional Food Procurement (4%)
- Food Vouchers (3%)
- Complementary Services (1%)

## HIGHLIGHTS

- UN requests nearly \$1.1 billion to assist 3.4 million of the most vulnerable Somalis
- Access constraints, bureaucratic impediments, and insecurity continue to hamper relief operations across Somalia
- Conflict displaces 320,000 Somalis in 2018

## HUMANITARIAN FUNDING FOR THE SOMALIA RESPONSE IN FY 2018–2019

USAID/OFDA	\$139,182,363
USAID/FFP	\$288,332,805
State/PRM <sup>3</sup>	\$59,900,000
<b>Total</b>	<b>\$487,415,168</b>

## KEY DEVELOPMENTS

- Worsening dry conditions in Somalia have reduced pasture and water availability across Somalia's northern regions, exacerbating food, health, and water, sanitation, and hygiene (WASH) needs. More than 1.5 million people will likely face Crisis—IPC 3—or worse levels of food insecurity through June as a result of below-average October-to-December *deyr* rainfall, higher than normal temperatures during the ongoing *jilal* dry season, protracted conflict, and residual effects from the 2016/2017 drought.
- On January 21, the Federal Government of Somalia (FGoS) and the UN launched the 2019 Humanitarian Response Plan (HRP) for Somalia, requesting nearly \$1.1 billion to deliver humanitarian assistance to 3.4 million people. The population in need of humanitarian assistance represents an approximately 30 percent decrease from 2018.
- Bureaucratic impediments and insecurity continue to constrain humanitarian access and disrupt relief operations in Somalia. The UN recorded more than 120 violent incidents affecting 65 humanitarian personnel in Somalia in 2018.

<sup>1</sup> USAID's Office of U.S. Foreign Disaster Assistance (USAID/OFDA)

<sup>2</sup> USAID's Office of Food for Peace (USAID/FFP)

<sup>3</sup> Total U.S. Department of State Bureau of Population, Refugees, and Migration (State/PRM) funding for the Somalia regional response in FY 2018 also includes \$65,285,806 for Somali refugees in the Horn of Africa and Yemen, bringing total USG emergency funding for the Somalia crisis regional response to \$552,700,974 in FY 2018–2019.

## CURRENT EVENTS

- The FGoS and the UN launched the 2019 HRP on January 21, requesting nearly \$1.1 billion to support 3.4 million Somalis countrywide. The 2019 HRP focuses on providing life-saving assistance, including critical nutrition and protection support, as well as resilience-building initiatives for the most vulnerable Somalis, and complements ongoing long-term development efforts outlined in the Resilience and Recovery Framework for Somalia launched in January 2018. The 2018 HRP for Somalia received \$849 million, or 55 percent, of the \$1.5 billion request.
  - On February 28, al-Shabaab militants detonated two improvised explosive devices (IEDs) in the capital city of Mogadishu, resulting in nearly 30 deaths and injuring at least 80 people, according to international media. U.S. Ambassador to Somalia Donald Y. Yamamoto issued a statement condemning the attack—the second IED attack in Mogadishu during February—on March 2.
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## INSECURITY, DISPLACEMENT, AND HUMANITARIAN ACCESS

- Insecurity continues to endanger humanitarian personnel and hinder relief operations in Somalia, with recurring violent incidents reported along main supply roads and in central and southern areas of the country. On January 1, al-Shabaab militants attacked the main UN compound in Mogadishu, injuring two UN staff members and one contractor. Similarly, on February 12, an IED attached to a police vehicle detonated in Mogadishu, temporarily restricting access to a USAID/OFDA supported health facility. Although the attack temporarily restricted access to the facility for some health workers and patients, all facility staff remained unharmed and continued to provide services in the facility; however, the incident underscores the risk relief actors continue to face as they assist vulnerable populations across Somalia.
  - In 2018, violent incidents directly affected 65 humanitarian personnel in Somalia, with the UN recording 10 deaths, 13 injuries, 24 abductions, and 18 arrests or temporary detentions among relief actors. The figures represent a slight improvement from 2017, when violent incidents affected more than 100 humanitarian personnel as relief organizations scaled-up emergency interventions in hard-to-reach areas of Somalia to respond to significant drought-related needs.
  - Meanwhile, road insecurity continues to restrict humanitarian access and disrupt the transport of essential commercial and relief supplies in more than 40 of Somalia's 90 districts, according to the UN. Unauthorized checkpoints—operated by non-state actors or in coordination with local authorities—further challenge the movement of staff and supplies in some areas, with extortion or violence frequently reported. Individuals traveling through authorized checkpoints—particularly those along main roads in central and southern Somalia connecting Mogadishu to Bay Region's Baidoa town and Middle Shabelle Region's Jowhar town—have also reported experiencing similar incidents of extortion and violence, the UN reports.
  - Bureaucratic impediments also continue to hamper humanitarian operations in Somalia, according to the UN. In 2018, relief actors reported more than 100 disruptions to activities due to administrative obstacles, such as arbitrary taxation and interference by authorities in staff recruitment or in the selection of humanitarian contractors and vendors.
  - Violence also prompted significant population displacement across Somalia in 2018, with conflict and insecurity displacing approximately 320,000 Somalis during the year—the most conflict-related displacement in four years, according to the UN. The most conflict-related displacement occurred in Lower Shabelle Region, where 140,000 people fled their homes due to violence during the year. In addition, the UN reported that flooding displaced an estimated 281,000 people and drought displaced an estimated 256,000 people during 2018.
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## FOOD SECURITY AND NUTRITION

- On February 3, the Famine Early Warning Systems Network (FEWS NET) and the Somalia Food Security and Nutrition Analysis Unit (FSNAU) released the post-*deyr* assessment indicating that more than 1.5 million people will likely face Crisis or worse levels of food insecurity through June as a result of below-average *deyr* rainfall, residual effects

from the 2016/2017 drought, and protracted conflict.<sup>4</sup> An additional 3.4 million people are anticipated to experience Stressed—IPC 2—levels of acute food insecurity during the same period, according to FEWS NET. Approximately 900,000 children ages five years and younger will likely require urgent acute malnutrition treatment and nutrition support, of whom more than 100,000 are expected to face severe acute malnutrition (SAM), according to the assessment.

- While the total food-insecure population in Somalia has increased since October 2018, the number of people facing Emergency—IPC 4—levels of acute food insecurity has decreased by 11 percent, due in part to the impacts of humanitarian food assistance. FEWS NET reports that populations in most northern pastoral areas and almost half of internally displaced person (IDP) settlements are currently experiencing Stressed levels of food insecurity, while Crisis levels persist in remaining IDP settlements and both rural and urban areas across central, northern, and southern Somalia. In parts of Awdal and Woqooyi Galbeed regions, populations would likely face Emergency levels of acute food insecurity without ongoing or planned emergency food assistance through May.
- Worsening dry conditions in Somalia following the below-average *deyr* rains have contributed to deteriorating pasture and water availability in central and northern areas of the country, the UN reports. Relief actors reported water shortages and diminishing water reservoirs throughout February, noting population movements among some pastoralist communities in search of water and pasture, with some affected individuals traveling to urban areas to seek temporary employment or shelter with relatives. In the most-affected areas of central and northern Somalia, the prolonged and atypical dryness is indicative of drought conditions, according to FEWS NET. Relief actors remain concerned that restricted access to safe drinking water could increase communicable disease risks.
- In January, a USAID/OFDA partner treated more than 6,600 children ages five years and younger experiencing SAM and conducted nutritional screenings for nearly 89,000 children across Somalia. The partner also reached nearly 9,500 children ages 6–23 months with micronutrient powders and more than 10,500 children ages five years and younger with vitamin A supplements. An estimated 1.5 million people will require emergency assistance to prevent or treat acute malnutrition in 2019, with nutrition organizations prioritizing interventions for 1.1 million people.
- In 2018, the UN Children’s Fund (UNICEF) supported emergency treatment for more than 220,000 children ages five years and younger experiencing SAM, exceeding the annual target by 20 percent and responding to more than 90 percent of the reported national SAM caseload. Relief organizations reported more than 85 percent of SAM admissions in central and southern regions of Somalia, which host a majority of countrywide IDPs.
- In January, USAID/FFP partner the UN World Food Program (WFP) provided food assistance to 1.3 million people, delivering \$7.3 million in cash-based assistance and more than 3,500 metric tons (MT) of in-kind food assistance. WFP continues to prioritize emergency assistance for the most vulnerable people to prevent further deterioration for populations already facing Crisis or worse levels of acute food insecurity. WFP also plans to provide households experiencing Stressed levels of food insecurity with livelihood support to improve families’ resilience and ability to cope with shocks and mitigate risks that the food insecurity levels of some households could deteriorate to Crisis levels.

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## PROTECTION

- Nearly 5,700 children, including more than 800 girls, were victims of nearly 4,800 grave violations against children committed by parties to the conflict in 2018, UNICEF reports. Approximately 2,300 children—or 43 percent of those impacted—were recruited by armed groups in 2018, an increase of 8 percent from 2017, according to the UN Monitoring and Reporting Mechanism. UNICEF continues to support child protection initiatives in Somalia; in January, the UN agency reached more than 3,000 children with psychosocial support, identified and documented more than 300 unaccompanied and separated children, and admitted more than 230 children formerly associated with armed groups to reintegration programs.

<sup>4</sup> The Integrated Food Security Phase Classification (IPC) is a standardized tool that aims to classify the severity and magnitude of food insecurity. The IPC scale, which is comparable across countries, ranges from Minimal—IPC 1—to Famine—IPC 5.

- In 2018, the UN agency also reached more than 35,300 children with psychosocial support services, reunited nearly 11,500 unaccompanied or separated children with their families, and enrolled nearly 1,500 vulnerable children—including nearly 1,200 children formerly associated with armed groups—in reintegration services during the year.
- UNICEF-led protection programs have also trained humanitarian actors in Somalia to better identify signs of sexual exploitation and abuse and support gender-based violence (GBV) survivors. In 2018, UNICEF and other relief organizations provided safe spaces and clinical, legal, and psychosocial services to 9,000 survivors of rape and sexual violence, including establishing a helpline for survivors of rape and sexual violence. The UN agency has also provided training to more than 50 Child Protection Working Group members on child protection in emergencies, GBV, and protection from sexual exploitation and abuse (PSEA) in Garowe town, Nugal Region; Hargeysa, Woqooyi Galbeed; and Mogadishu. The training focused on internal PSEA compliance mechanisms and identification of local referral pathways, as well as built knowledge and skills in referring GBV survivors in accordance with global guidance.
- In FY 2018 and FY 2019 to date, USAID/OFDA has provided approximately \$14.5 million to support protection activities in Somalia. Through an international non-governmental organization (NGO) partner, USAID/OFDA supported a local NGO to coordinate with the FGoS Ministry of Health to provide GBV response services, GBV prevention information, and training on GBV guiding principles and clinical care for sexual assault survivors. Another USAID/OFDA partner, through FY 2018 funding, provided direct support to unaccompanied and separated children (UASC) through case management, organized foster care arrangements for UASC, trained child friendly space facilitators, built capacity of community structures on child protection on GBV, and distributed materials on child protection, GBV, and psychosocial support.

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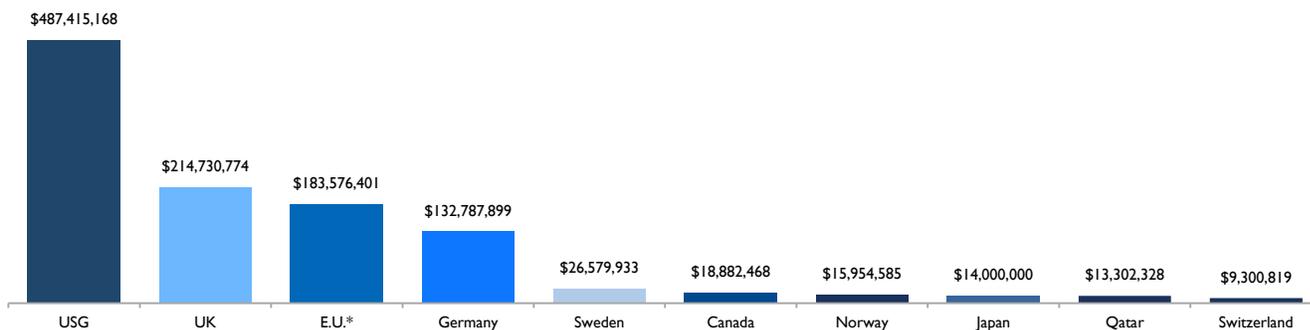
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## HEALTH AND WASH

- In collaboration with the FGoS Ministry of Health, the International Organization for Migration (IOM) has established and equipped three primary health care clinics in Gedo Region's Bardhere town and provided health consultation to nearly 46,000 people, including nearly 18,000 children, through the clinics between October 2018 and January 2019. Prior to IOM's late 2018 initiation of health care services in the town, Bardhere—with an estimated population of 178,000, including many people living in IDP settlements—had largely been inaccessible to relief actors, leaving vulnerable communities without access to basic services or assistance. As of January, no other international humanitarian agencies were implementing programs in Bardhere.
- During 2018, UNICEF and other relief organizations provided more than 1 million women and children with emergency health services through more than 140 health facilities and 70 mobile outreach teams across Somalia. In Bakool Region's Hudur District and Lower Juba Region's Afmadow District, UNICEF and other relief organizations treated more than 4,300 people with acute watery diarrhea (AWD); conducted two oral cholera vaccine campaigns that reached approximately 176,000 people; and facilitated AWD and cholera information sessions reaching more than 269,000 people. AWD cases decreased from nearly 78,900 in 2017 to nearly 6,800 in 2018 and routine immunization coverage among children rose from more than 50 percent in 2017 to more than 70 percent in 2018. UNICEF attributes AWD reductions to moderate rains, enhanced promotion of health education, and timely response.
- The number of measles and AWD cases recorded by health actors in January 2019 decreased by 80 and 20 percent, respectively, compared to January 2018, UNICEF reports. In preparation for a potential rise in AWD cases during the April-to-June *gu* rainy season, however, UNICEF has pre-positioned AWD response supplies sufficient for 35,000 people in strategic hubs across Somalia.
- UNICEF-supported health services reached nearly 94,400 people countrywide in January, including 37,500 children ages five years and younger. UNICEF also provided nearly 111,900 people with safe drinking water through water trucking in Bay's Baidoa District, Gedo's Doolow and Luuq districts, and Lower Juba's Kismayo District, where deficient *deyr* rainfall and resultant low river water levels have resulted in critical water shortages.

## 2018–2019 HUMANITARIAN FUNDING\*

PER DONOR



\*Funding figures are as of March 15, 2019. All international figures are according to OCHA Financial Tracking Service and based on commitments during 2018 and 2019, while U.S. Government (USG) figures are according to the USG and reflect USG commitments in FY 2018 and FY 2019, which began on October 1, 2018.

\*\*Includes contributions from the European Commission’s Directorate-General for Humanitarian Aid and Civil Protection (ECHO)

### CONTEXT

- Persistent food insecurity, widespread violence, and recurrent droughts and floods have characterized the complex emergency in Somalia since 1991. Conflict—primarily related to al-Shabaab attacks and resultant military operations, as well as intercommunal violence—continues to restrict trade and market activities while contributing to population displacement and food insecurity.
- Attacks against civilians and aid workers also disrupt livelihoods and hinder humanitarian response activities, particularly in areas that lack established local authorities and where al-Shabaab is present. Sustained life-saving assistance, coupled with interventions aimed at building resilience, is critical to help vulnerable households meet basic needs, reduce acute malnutrition, rebuild assets, and protect livelihoods.
- Recurrent drought conditions and seasonal flooding have amplified conflict-derived humanitarian needs in Somalia. While favorable seasonal rainfall has slightly improved food security and nutrition conditions in recent months, the humanitarian situation remains tenuous and susceptible to future climatic shocks, particularly for IDPs and other vulnerable populations. In total, an estimated 3.5 million people in Somalia require food assistance.
- On October 14, 2017, a truck containing explosives detonated near a hotel in Mogadishu, resulting in an estimated 587 deaths, according to the FGoS. On October 16, U.S. Chargé d’Affaires, a.i., Martin Dale declared a disaster in response to widespread damage caused by the attack, the extent of humanitarian needs, and limited response capacity within Somalia.
- On November 2, 2018, U.S. Chargé d’Affaires, a.i., Martin A. Dale renewed the disaster declaration for FY 2019 in response to the ongoing complex emergency Somalia—with persistent food insecurity, widespread violence, protracted population displacement, and recurrent droughts and floods resulting in acute humanitarian needs.

**USG HUMANITARIAN FUNDING FOR THE SOMALIA RESPONSE IN FY 2019<sup>1</sup>**

<b>IMPLEMENTING PARTNER</b>	<b>ACTIVITY</b>	<b>LOCATION</b>	<b>AMOUNT</b>
<b>USAID/OFDA</b>			
Implementing Partners	Agriculture and Food Security; Health; Humanitarian Coordination and Information Management; Logistics Support and Relief Commodities; Natural and Technological Risks; Nutrition; Protection; WASH	Countrywide	\$26,500,000
	Program Support		\$5,016
<b>TOTAL USAID/OFDA FUNDING FOR THE SOMALIA RESPONSE IN FY 2019</b>			<b>\$26,505,016</b>
<b>USAID/FFP<sup>3</sup></b>			
WFP	19,420 MT of U.S. In-Kind Food Aid	Countrywide	\$29,976,772
<b>TOTAL USAID/FFP FUNDING FOR THE SOMALIA RESPONSE IN FY 2019</b>			<b>\$29,976,772</b>
<b>TOTAL USG HUMANITARIAN FUNDING FOR THE SOMALIA RESPONSE IN FY 2019</b>			<b>\$56,481,788</b>

**USG HUMANITARIAN FUNDING FOR THE SOMALIA RESPONSE IN FY 2018<sup>1</sup>**

<b>IMPLEMENTING PARTNER</b>	<b>ACTIVITY</b>	<b>LOCATION</b>	<b>AMOUNT</b>
<b>USAID/OFDA<sup>2</sup></b>			
Implementing Partners	Agriculture and Food Security; Economic Recovery and Market Systems; Health; Humanitarian Coordination and Information Management; Logistics Support and Relief Commodities; Monitoring and Evaluation; Natural and Technological Risks; Nutrition; Protection; Risk Management, Policy, and Practice; Shelter and Settlements; WASH	Countrywide	\$112,615,660
	Program Support		\$61,687
<b>TOTAL USAID/OFDA FUNDING FOR THE SOMALIA RESPONSE IN FY 2018</b>			<b>\$112,677,347</b>
<b>USAID/FFP<sup>3</sup></b>			
WFP	72,683 MT of U.S. In-Kind Food Aid	Countrywide	\$101,775,975
	3,864 MT of Local and Regional Procurement, Cash Transfers for Food	Countrywide	\$59,000,000
Implementing Partners	800 MT of U.S. In-Kind Food Aid, Cash Transfers for Food, Food Vouchers, Complementary Services	Countrywide	\$97,580,058
<b>TOTAL USAID/FFP FUNDING FOR THE SOMALIA RESPONSE IN FY 2018</b>			<b>\$258,356,033</b>
<b>State/PRM<sup>4</sup></b>			
International Humanitarian Organizations	Multi-Sector Protection and Assistance Activities for Refugees, IDPs, and Conflict-Affected People	Countrywide	\$59,900,000
<b>TOTAL STATE/PRM FUNDING FOR THE SOMALIA RESPONSE IN FY 2018</b>			<b>\$59,900,000</b>
<b>TOTAL USG HUMANITARIAN FUNDING FOR THE SOMALIA RESPONSE IN FY 2018</b>			<b>\$430,933,380</b>

<b>TOTAL USAID/OFDA FUNDING</b>	<b>\$139,182,363</b>
<b>TOTAL USAID/FFP FUNDING</b>	<b>\$288,332,805</b>
<b>TOTAL STATE/PRM FUNDING</b>	<b>\$59,900,000</b>
<b>TOTAL USG HUMANITARIAN FUNDING FOR THE SOMALIA RESPONSE IN FY 2018–2019</b>	<b>\$487,415,168</b>

<sup>1</sup> Year of funding indicates the date of commitment or obligation, not appropriation, of funds; USG funding represents publicly reported amounts as of March 15, 2019.

<sup>2</sup> USAID/OFDA funding includes humanitarian assistance in response to a suspected al-Shabaab attack in mid-October 2017, which resulted in hundreds of deaths and damage to critical infrastructure in Mogadishu.

<sup>3</sup> Estimated value of food assistance and transportation costs at time of procurement; subject to change.

<sup>4</sup> Total State/PRM funding for the Somalia regional response in FY 2018 also includes \$65,285,806 for Somali refugees in the Horn of Africa and Yemen. State/PRM funding for Somali refugees brings total USG emergency funding for the Somalia crisis regional response to \$552,700,974 in FY 2018–2019.

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## PUBLIC DONATION INFORMATION

- The most effective way people can assist relief efforts is by making cash contributions to humanitarian organizations that are conducting relief operations. A list of humanitarian organizations that are accepting cash donations for disaster responses around the world can be found at [www.interaction.org](http://www.interaction.org).
- USAID encourages cash donations because they allow aid professionals to procure the exact items needed (often in the affected region); reduce the burden on scarce resources (such as transportation routes, staff time, and warehouse space); can be transferred very quickly and without transportation costs; support the economy of the disaster-stricken region; and ensure culturally, dietary, and environmentally appropriate assistance.
- More information can be found at:
  - USAID Center for International Disaster Information: [www.cidi.org](http://www.cidi.org) or +1.202.661.7710.
  - Information on relief activities of the humanitarian community can be found at [www.reliefweb.int](http://www.reliefweb.int).

USAID/OFDA bulletins appear on the USAID website at <http://www.usaid.gov/what-we-do/working-crises-and-conflict/responding-times-crisis/where-we-work>