

The latest projection indicates an improving food security situation in areas that were affected by the 2016-2017 drought, due to the above-average Gu rainy season (April-June) supported by large-scale humanitarian assistance. However, humanitarian needs remain critical with an estimated 5.4 million people in need of assistance. Most areas of the country are currently in Stress (IPC Phase 2), with some in Crisis (IPC Phase 3) – mainly internally displaced person (IDPs) with limited access to tenable livelihoods. The risk of deterioration remains, should aid not be sustained, particularly IDPs who largely depend on aid. The spike in evictions of IDPs, which has affected nearly 205,000 people by July – compared to 200,000 in the entirety of 2017 – is worsening the situation of IDPs.

By the end of July 2018, the Somalia Humanitarian Response Plan (HRP) had received \$563million. Together with approximately \$167 million received outside the plan, the Somalia operation has received \$730 million. The funding received by end July 2018 is 76 per cent of the sum reported in the same period in 2017. Similarly, cumulative receipts towards the HRP and non-HRP are 78 and 70 per cent respectively of contributions received by end July 2017. Despite limited resources, humanitarian partners continued to provide life-saving assistance reaching nearly two million people with food assistance every month. Major diseases such as acute watery diarrhoea (AWD), began to decrease by June due to WASH and Health sector control measures. Nutrition partners also scaled up reaching more new cases of severe acute malnutrition with treatment.

While total humanitarian funding received from January this year has been on a positive trajectory similar to 2017, funding sharply increased in July 2017 unlike in 2018 where contribution increments were modest. This was due to the continued threat of famine, spike in major diseases and displacement same time last year. This is in contrast to the same period in 2018, when the food security situation has improved. However, more funding is required to sustain the aid operation to avoid a deterioration in the second half of the year.

