



World Food Programme

WFP Somalia Country Brief August 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.



Population: **12.3 million**

Internally Displaced Persons (IDPs): **2.6 million**

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

National Global Acute Malnutrition (GAM) rate: **13.8 (Serious)**

In Numbers

8,160 mt of food assistance distributed

US\$10.9 m cash based transfers made

US\$141 m six months (September- February 2019) net funding requirements

1.93 m people assisted in August 2018



Operational Updates

- Results from the 2018 post-Gu assessment, show an overall improvement in the food security situation in Somalia as a result of large scale and prolonged humanitarian assistance, and favourable seasonal rains. The above average seasonal rains have also ended the drought that persisted since mid-2016, rejuvenating pastures and water sources across most of the country. However, the adverse impacts of the 2016-2017 severe drought are expected to persist, especially among people who were displaced and impoverished due to the drought, and among pastoralists who lost most of their animals and livelihood.
- Despite the improvements, 1.5 million people in Somalia face high levels of hunger (IPC Phase 3-Crisis and above) through to December 2018. Another 3.1 million people are vulnerable to shocks (IPC 2- Stressed) and could easily go hungry if they do not receive livelihood support. Malnutrition rates remain high with an estimated 294,000 children under the age of five likely to be acutely malnourished through to the end of the year, including 55,000 who are likely to be severely malnourished. IDP populations are the most vulnerable, with the majority of the 13 Internally Displaced People (IDP) settlements classified as IPC Phase 3 (Crisis) and above. The majority of households facing extreme lack of food and classified as IPC Phase 5 (Catastrophe) are IDPs.
- In August, WFP reached over 1.93 million people in Somalia with food and nutrition assistance. Out of these, 911,000 people received assistance through cash-based transfers worth US\$ 10.9 million, while 603,000 mothers and children received treatment and preventive nutrition assistance. Recovery activities are critical to building the resilience of households from future shocks, especially for agro-pastoralists across the country. WFP will continue to prioritize relief assistance for IDPs and areas with high prevalence of malnutrition, and transition households in *Crisis* and *Stressed* status to livelihood and recovery activities.

WFP Operations

	Total Requirements (in USD)	Allocated 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)	1.12 billion	746 m (66%)	141 m
Provision of Humanitarian Air Services in Somalia and Kenya			
SO 200924 (Jan 16 – Dec 18)	84 m	76 m (91%)	1.5 m
Emergency Rehabilitation Work and Capacity Strengthening at the Port of Kismayo			
SO 201051 (Jan 17 – May 2018)	1.6 m	1.1 m (69%)	N/A

*September 2018 – February 2019



Monitoring

- WFP conducted a post distribution monitoring (PDM) follow-up survey for its flood response interventions in Bay, Galgaduud, Gedo, Hiraan and Lower Juba regions of Somalia. WFP interventions in these regions include unconditional food and cash-based assistance. Close to 400 beneficiaries were randomly selected from the SCOPE database and interviewed through the call center. Results from the PDM indicated a notable improvement in food security compared to the May 2018 baseline results. Almost two-thirds of the surveyed households (63 percent) recorded an acceptable food consumption score, an indication that a majority of the households had adequate food intake. The positive results are linked to improvements in the overall food security situation after the Gu season. Favourable rainfall between April and June as well as sustained humanitarian assistance has increased household food access and milk availability.

Support to Local Farmers

- In August, WFP in collaboration with FAO provided training on modern warehouse management techniques to 500 farmers from cooperatives in the Lower Shabelle region of southern Somalia. Modern storage equipment such as cocoons were provided to all the trained farmers. Over the last five years, this joint effort between the two agencies and Ministry of Agriculture has enabled Somali farmers to reduce post-harvest losses and multiply the quantities of premium quality maize they produce. To date, WFP has purchased over 8,200 metric tons of high quality maize from farmers in southern Somalia. This includes 2,500 metric tons purchased in 2018 following a particularly good Gu rainy season.

Challenges

- Improvements in the food security situation remain fragile as households are still reeling from the effects of prolonged drought on their livelihoods. WFP requires US\$ 141 million to sustain its food, nutrition and livelihood assistance in the next six months (September 2018 to February 2019).

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, Denmark, OPEC Fund for International Development, Czech Republic, Liechtenstein, Russia, South Africa, Saudi Arabia, Kuwait, and New Zealand.
SO 200924: Canada, UK, USA, Germany, Norway CERF and ECHO
SO 201051: Italy