



WFP Somalia Country Brief

April 2021



Operational Context

Somalia continues to make progress to recover from underdevelopment, instability and decades of conflict since the re-establishment of the Federal Government in 2012. However, climatic shocks combined with gender inequality, protracted displacements and persistent conflict continue to exacerbate food insecurity. Inadequate water and sanitation, poor hygiene practices and chronic food insecurity are among the factors contributing to health and nutrition challenges. Furthermore, systemic problems such as limited investments, infrastructure and regulatory frameworks, as well as climate variability, limit the potential of Somalia's food systems to ensure access to and consumption of nutritious food. In response, the Government of Somalia launched the Ninth National Development Plan (NDP 9) in December 2019, laying out the national vision for sustainable development (2020-2024). In October 2020, the United Nations Sustainable Development Cooperation Framework (2021-2025) was signed, outlining the United Nations' response to the peace and development priorities of NDP 9 and its collective contribution to the realization of the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development of Somalia.

WFP ensures close engagement with partners through its Somalia country office in Mogadishu and 12 operational offices across Somalia.



Population: 14.3 million (NDP 9)

Internally displaced persons (IDPs): **2.9 million**

People facing acute food crisis: **2.65 million** (IPC 3 & above, Jan-June 2021)

National global acute malnutrition rate: **11.8 percent (serious)**

In Numbers

US\$ 12 million assistance delivered through cash-based transfers

6,573 mt of in-kind food assistance distributed

US\$ 210.3 million six months net funding requirements representing **54 percent** of the total **US\$ 392.6 million** for the next six months (May-October 2021)

1.6 million people assisted in April 2021



Operational Updates

Climate-induced shocks impacting food security

In April, dry conditions continued to cause severe water shortages for domestic, livestock and agricultural production in various regions across the country. For instance, in Mahadaay and Jowhar of Middle Shabelle, **5,000 farmers** in riverine communities moved to Mogadishu in search of casual labour. According to the Federal Ministry of Health, cases of **acute watery diarrhoea** have been reported in some parts across the country due to limited access to safe drinking water. Additionally, desert locust infestation on crops and pasture continues to threaten livelihoods, particularly in Puntland and Somaliland. The deterioration of pasture conditions coupled with low agricultural production directly impact on the food security situation of poor families across the country. The Food Security and Nutrition Analysis Unit (FSNAU) projects that 2.83 million Somalis will be in crisis or emergency levels (Integrated Phase Classifications IPC Phase 3 and IPC Phase 4 respectively) from July to September.

WFP's assistance enabling families to meet their food and nutrition needs

WFP provided food and nutrition assistance to 1.6 million women, girls, men and boys in communities most affected by acute food and nutrition insecurity. The assistance included a food basket comprising cereals, fortified vegetable oil, pulses, specialized nutritious food and/or cash-based transfers (CBT). Of these people, 436,000 pregnant and lactating women and girls, and children aged 6-59 months who received preventative and curative nutrition assistance were malnourished or at risk of becoming malnourished

School meals helping schoolchildren meet their food and nutrition needs

WFP assisted 97,000 school children through home grown school feeding (HGSF) in April. The hot meals were prepared from diverse, nutritious and locally sourced fresh foods. Linking schools to smallholder farmers and local producers contributes to the local economy; a key strategy to achieving the [Zero Hunger Goal](#).

WFP Country Strategy

Country strategic plan (2019-2021)

Total requirement (in US\$)	Allocated contributions (in US\$)	Six-month net funding requirements (in US\$)
1.88 b	999.1 m	210.3 m

Strategic result 1: Everyone has access to food

Strategic outcome 1: Food and nutrition insecure people in areas affected by natural or human-caused disasters have access to adequate and nutritious food, and specialized nutritious foods to meet their basic food and nutrition needs during and in the aftermath of a shock.

Focus area: Crisis response

Activities:

- Provision of unconditional food and/or cash-based food assistance, specialized nutritious foods and gender-transformative nutrition messaging and counselling to crisis-affected people through well-coordinated food security and logistics during humanitarian responses.

Strategic result 2: No one suffers from malnutrition

Strategic outcome 2: Food-insecure people in targeted areas are better able to withstand shocks and stresses throughout the year.

Focus area: Resilience building

Activities:

- Provision of conditional and unconditional food and/or cash-based food assistance and nutritional messaging to food-insecure people through reliable safety nets, including school meals.
- Provision of unconditional cash transfers in rural areas to targeted poor and vulnerable households

Strategic result 3: Achieve food security

Strategic outcome 3: Malnourished and food-insecure children, adolescent girls, PLWG and ART/TB-DOT clients in areas with persistently high rates of acute malnutrition have improved nutritional status throughout the year.

Focus area: Resilience building

Activities:

- Provision of specialized nutritious foods and nutrition messaging to children, adolescent girls, pregnant and lactating women and girls (PLWG) and ART/TB-DOT clients to systematically treat and prevent malnutrition and to stimulate positive behaviour change.

Strategic result 4: Sustainable food systems

Strategic outcome 4: National institutions, private sector actors, smallholder farmers, and food-insecure and nutritionally vulnerable populations benefit from more resilient, inclusive and nutritious food systems by 2021.

Focus area: Resilience building

Activities:

- Provision of services, skills, assets and infrastructure for the rehabilitation and strengthening of food supply chains.

Strategic result 5: Capacity Strengthening

Strategic outcome 5: National institutions have strengthened policies, capacities and systems for supporting food-insecure and nutritionally vulnerable populations by 2021.

Focus area: Resilience building

Activities:

- Provision of technical support for the strengthening of national policies, capacities and systems.

Strategic result 8: Enhance Global Partnership

Strategic outcome 6: The humanitarian community is better able to reach vulnerable people and respond to needs throughout the year.

Focus area: Crisis response

Activities:

- Provision of air services for the humanitarian community
- Provision of on-demand services for the humanitarian community
- Provision of common services through the Logistics Cluster

Health system strengthening by training community health workers (CHW) In collaboration with partners, WFP trained 179 CHW in Mogadishu on health and nutrition topics, such as consumption of nutritious foods and utilization of health services. The CHWs will create nutrition and health awareness in their communities while screening and referring malnourished women and children for nutrition assistance.

WFP is improving access to services through door-step delivery of relief food to vulnerable beneficiaries

Through the WFP [e-Shop](#) home delivery services, WFP delivered a total of 134 mt of relief food (sorghum, pulses and fortified vegetable oil) to 1,519 households in Balcad district, where the home delivery of relief food is being piloted.

Effective air transport services ensuring partners reach beneficiaries in difficult to reach locations

The United Nations Humanitarian Air Service (UNHAS) supported 41 partners (humanitarian community and government) by transporting 305 passengers and 19.99 mt of cargo to 11 locations. In coordination with the Logistics Cluster, UNHAS supported the Federal Ministry of Health, the United Nations Children's Fund and the Coalition for Epidemic Preparedness Innovations to transport COVAX vaccines from the COVAX Facility to Buloburte.

Funding

To continue providing lifesaving food and nutrition assistance to the most vulnerable populations, including internally displaced persons, WFP needs an additional funding of **US\$ 210.3 million** for the period May-October 2021. Timely contributions would prevent people with moderate acute malnutrition from deteriorating to severe acute malnutrition, attributed to increased risk of morbidity and death.

Donors

Canada, China, Denmark, European Commission (ECHO), Federal Government of Somalia, France, Germany, Italy, Japan, Lithuania, Republic of Korea, Russia, Saudi Arabia, Saudi Arabia, Somalia Humanitarian Fund (SHF), South Africa, Sweden, Switzerland, UN CERF and United Kingdom, USA.