

SOMALIA - COMPLEX EMERGENCY

FACT SHEET #2, FISCAL YEAR (FY) 2020

APRIL 29, 2020

NUMBERS AT A GLANCE

5.2 million

People in Somalia Requiring Humanitarian Assistance
UN – January 2020

1.6 million

People in Somalia Likely to Experience Crisis or Emergency Levels of Acute Food Insecurity From June to September 2020
FEWS NET – March 2020

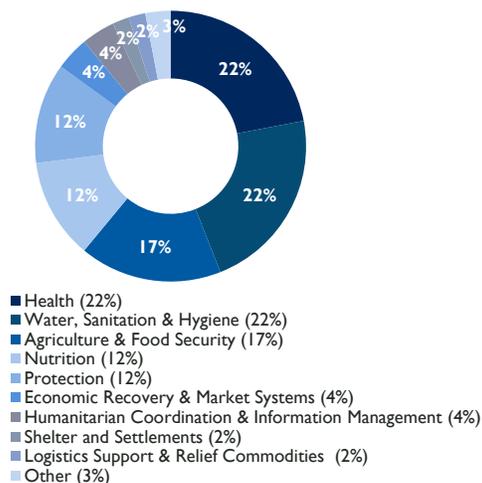
2.6 million

Number of IDPs in Somalia
UN – March 2020

763,936

Somali Refugees in Neighboring Countries
UNHCR – March 2020

USAID/OFDA FUNDING BY SECTOR IN FYs 2019–2020



USAID/FFP FUNDING BY MODALITY IN FYs 2019–2020



HIGHLIGHTS

- USG humanitarian partners adjust programs in response to COVID-19
- Floods destroy shelters of 81,000 people in late April
- 1.6 million people likely to experience acute levels of food insecurity from June–September
- Violence displaces 56,000 people in Gedo between late February and early March

HUMANITARIAN FUNDING FOR THE SOMALIA RESPONSE IN FYs 2019–2020

USAID/OFDA ¹	\$124,394,898
USAID/FFP ²	\$317,542,903
State/PRM ³	\$51,900,000
Total	\$493,837,801

KEY DEVELOPMENTS

- In response to the continued spread of coronavirus disease (COVID-19), humanitarian agencies—including USAID partners—are coordinating with the Federal Government of Somalia (FGoS) and other government authorities to implement preparedness and response activities across Somalia. Relief actors are particularly concerned about the potential spread of COVID-19 into internally displaced person (IDP) camps, where overcrowding and limited access to health and water, sanitation, and hygiene (WASH) services could exacerbate the impact of a potential outbreak.
- Nearly 1.6 million people in Somalia could face severe levels of acute food insecurity from June to September, an increase from the estimated nearly 1.2 million people facing severe food insecurity in early 2020, according to the Famine Early Warning Systems Network (FEWS NET).

¹Total USAID Office of U.S. Foreign Disaster Assistance (USAID/OFDA) funding for the complex emergency in Somalia does not include support for the ongoing desert locust response. For additional information regarding the desert locust response in Somalia, please refer to the USAID/DCHA East Africa Desert Locust Crisis Fact Sheet.

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

³Total U.S. Department of State Bureau of Population, Refugees, and Migration (State/PRM) funding for the Somalia regional response in FYs 2019–2020 also includes \$55,572,000 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 \$549,409,801 in FYs 2019–2020.

COVID-19 IMPACT AND RESPONSE

- Following the first laboratory-confirmed case of COVID-19 in mid-March, the FGoS began introducing policies aimed at curbing the spread of the disease, such as closing the country's borders with Ethiopia and Kenya, suspending domestic passenger flights and international travel, restricting large gatherings of people, and shuttering schools, according to international media reports. Relief actors—including U.S. Government (USG) implementing partners—are adjusting humanitarian programming to account for the new COVID-19 related measures, maintain operations, and safely deliver assistance to crisis-affected populations across the country.
- On April 23, the UN released a COVID-19 Country Preparedness and Response Plan, outlining objectives for UN agencies and humanitarian non-governmental organizations to scale up public health preparedness and response activities and respond to the humanitarian and socioeconomic impacts of COVID-19 in Somalia during the next six to nine months. The plan is aligned with and supports the FGoS National Preparedness and Response Plan and Socio-Economic Impact and Response Plan, finalized on March 26 and 27, respectively. Relief agencies require nearly \$232 million for the public health preparedness and response and immediate humanitarian response components of the plan. In response to increased health needs associated with COVID-19, relief actors are coordinating with government officials to train health workers, strengthen infection prevention and control protocols, establish isolation centers, deploy health providers to ports of entry, and implement risk communication and community engagement activities. Given that a significant proportion of confirmed COVID-19 cases have been attributed to community transmission, public health specialists are also scaling up testing, diagnosis, and contact tracing to contain the spread of the disease.
- Despite COVID-19 preparedness and response efforts to date, only one laboratory in Somalia's capital city of Mogadishu had sufficient capacity for COVID-19 testing and diagnosis, while a second machine for COVID-19 testing in Woqooyi Galbeed Region's Hargeysa city was only semi-operational as of late April, the UN World Health Organization (WHO) reports. Additionally, less than 20 percent of health facilities have adequate supplies to manage a COVID-19 outbreak, and only two health workers are available per 100,000 people in Somalia, according to the UN.
- In addition, relief actors remain concerned that high levels of insecurity and significant IDP populations, especially in urban areas, could contribute to the spread of COVID-19 across Somalia. In particular, IDPs sheltering in overcrowded, makeshift camps face limited access to health care services, safe drinking water, and hygiene supplies, increasing transmission risks, according to WHO.
- On March 20, the UN Children's Fund (UNICEF) appealed for \$32.3 million to reach 4 million people residing in congested areas—including IDP camps—with critical COVID-19 prevention information, essential hygiene supplies, and other health assistance for a period of six months, ending in September. Humanitarian organizations, including USAID/OFDA partners, also began scaling up COVID-19 prevention and response activities in IDP camps during March, reaching IDPs in more than 200 sites across the country with COVID-19 awareness campaigns and information on referral pathways.
- Meanwhile, USAID/OFDA partners continue to coordinate with government authorities and other relief actors to respond to acute health and WASH needs across Somalia. With nearly \$54.6 million in FY 2019–2020 funding USAID/OFDA is supporting partners to conduct disease surveillance, train community health workers, and strengthen the case management of infectious diseases, including through mobile health clinics and in IDP camps. In addition, USAID/OFDA is supporting social mobilization efforts to promote hygiene and prevent and treat diseases, as well as the rehabilitation of water points and boreholes to improve access to safe drinking water, among other activities.
- Additionally, USAID/FFP is coordinating with partners and the FGoS to ensure ongoing emergency food and nutrition needs in Somalia are met, including pivoting resources to incorporate appropriate COVID-19 prevention measures, as well as prepare for the eventual impact of COVID-19 on food security.

FLOODING

- Since April 20, heavy seasonal rainfall—associated with the April-to-June *gu* rains—has significantly elevated river levels and resulted in flash floods and riverine flooding in southern Somalia, including in Bay and Gedo regions, as well as parts of Mogadishu and the semi-autonomous region of Puntland, according to the UN Food and Agriculture Organization (FAO)-managed Somalia Water and Land Information Management (SWALIM) project. As of April 24, floods had destroyed the shelters of 81,000 people in more than 70 IDP camps across Bay and adversely impacted approximately 4,500 people in Puntland. Flooding has also damaged property, destroyed crops in low-lying areas, and damaged or flooded latrines in affected areas, increasing the risk of cholera and other waterborne diseases. Emergency needs among affected populations include access to food, health care services, and safe drinking water, as well as livelihoods, shelter, and WASH assistance, the UN reports.
 - SWALIM anticipates further moderate-to-heavy rainfall in the highlands of southeastern Ethiopia and south-central Somalia in the coming weeks, increasing the risk of additional riverine flooding along parts of the Juba and Shabelle rivers. In anticipation of additional flooding, humanitarian agencies—including USAID partners—are conducting assessments to plan a response. A USAID/OFDA partner is also supporting efforts to monitor seasonal rainfall and evaluate flood risks across low-lying and riverine areas of south-central Somalia.
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FOOD SECURITY AND NUTRITION

- Despite above-average crop yields and an improvement in livestock production, more than 1.6 million people in Somalia will likely experience Crisis—IPC 3—and higher levels of acute food insecurity from June through September, an increase from the estimated 1.2 million people in early 2020, according to FEWS NET.⁴ The increase is due to the projected impact of seasonal flooding during the *gu* rains, as well as locust-related damage to crops and pastureland, both of which could be compounded by reduced household capacity to cope with environmental shocks and agricultural losses in the coming months; the estimate does not account for the effects of COVID-19 on food security. In addition, approximately 963,000 children younger than five years of age could face acute malnutrition through December, up to 62,000 of whom are likely to experience severe acute malnutrition, according to FEWS NET.
- As of mid-February, desert locusts had caused 2 percent of main *deyr* season crop losses, though off-season *deyr* crops remained unaffected, according to a March FEWS NET report. While the impact of locust infestations remained limited and localized as of mid-April, new swarms of the pest could threaten food security in northern Somalia and in south-central areas located along the country's borders with Ethiopia and Kenya in the coming months. Above-average rainfall in the *gu* rainy season is expected to support pasture regeneration and planting activities, partially offsetting the impact of desert locusts, according to FEWS NET. However, *gu* rains could also enable a new wave of breeding and worsen the spread of locusts. Overall, locusts could damage up to 19,000 metric tons (MT) of cereal crops produced during the *gu* harvest—an amount of food sufficient to support an estimated 281,000 people for six months, according to FAO.
- Meanwhile, the COVID-19 pandemic could further exacerbate food insecurity in Somalia by disrupting domestic market supply chains and household food and income sources, the UN reports. Somali households' earnings from remittances will likely diminish as income-earners outside the country face reduced economic opportunities due to COVID-19-related restrictions.
- USAID/FFP continues to support the UN World Food Program (WFP) and other relief organizations to respond to acute food needs across Somalia, primarily through cash transfers for food and distributions of U.S. in-kind food aid. USAID/FFP also supports relief partners to conduct complementary activities to bolster livelihoods in Somalia, including establishing village savings and loans groups; increasing ecological restoration; providing agricultural training and inputs, including seeds and tools; implementing activities to improve children's dietary diversity; and providing training for caregivers, family members, and community members to identify signs of moderate and severe acute

⁴ 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, comparable across countries, ranges from Minimal—IPC 1—to Famine—IPC 5.

malnutrition. In FY 2019 and to date in FY 2020, USAID/FFP has provided approximately \$317.5 million in humanitarian funding and nearly 131,000 MT of in-kind food aid to support the provision of emergency food and nutrition assistance to crisis-affected populations in Somalia.

- In FY 2019 and to date in FY 2020, USAID/OFDA has provided approximately \$15.2 million to support emergency nutrition interventions across Somalia, including treatment of women and children facing moderate and severe acute malnutrition; training community health workers on methods to identify and treat acute malnutrition; promoting infant and young child feeding practices at the community level; and analyzing food security and nutrition conditions.

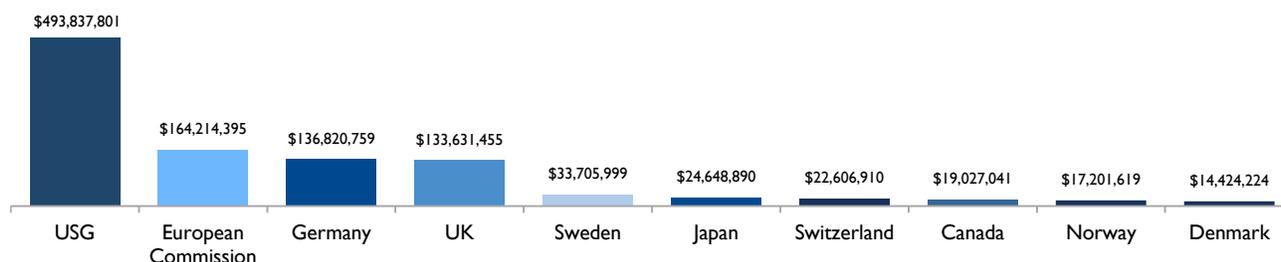
INSECURITY AND POPULATION DISPLACEMENT

- Conflict continues to drive displacement in Somalia, with armed clashes displacing approximately 56,000 people from Gedo's Belet Xaawo town and Belet Amin IDP settlements between early February and early March, the UN reports. Most displaced individuals fled to nearby villages, sheltering in makeshift dwellings or with relatives or clan members, according to relief actors. In response, humanitarian agencies provided emergency assistance—including multi-purpose cash assistance and relief commodities—to the newly displaced individuals. UN Resident and Humanitarian Coordinator for Somalia Adam Abdelmoula also condemned the violence and called on all parties to the conflict to protect civilians and ensure unimpeded humanitarian access to affected populations.
- Separately, clashes between the Somali National Army (SNA) and al-Shabaab displaced approximately 8,000 people from Lower Shabelle Region's Janaale town in mid-March, according to the UN. While some IDPs have returned to prior areas of residence in and around Janaale, others continued to shelter in settlements in Lower Shabelle's Afgooye town and Marka city, as well as Mogadishu, as of early April. Although relief actors are providing emergency food, health, nutrition, and WASH assistance to the IDPs, the UN has noted the need to scale up interventions in response to heightened needs.
- Overall, an estimated 2.6 million people remain displaced across Somalia due to ongoing conflict, as well as the effects of climatic shocks, including recurrent drought and flooding. USAID continues to support implementing partners to provide life-saving food, health, shelter, WASH, and other assistance to crisis-affected populations across Somalia, despite continued restrictions on humanitarian access in parts of central and southern Somalia.

OTHER INTERNATIONAL ASSISTANCE

- On January 21, the UN released the 2020 Humanitarian Response Plan for Somalia, requesting approximately \$1 billion to respond to the acute needs of 3 million of the most vulnerable people across Somalia, a decrease of 12 percent compared to the 3.4 million people relief actors aimed to reach under the nearly \$1.1 billion 2019 appeal. Drought, erratic rainfall, and humanitarian access challenges in conflict-affected areas contributed to an increase in the number of people in need of assistance from 4.2 million to 5.2 million between 2019 and 2020. However, the UN notes that development, recovery, and resilience interventions—rather than emergency assistance—may be better suited to meet the needs of some populations in Somalia.

2019–2020 HUMANITARIAN FUNDING* PER DONOR



* Funding figures are as of April 29, 2020. All international figures are according to the UN Office for the Coordination of Humanitarian Affairs (OCHA)'s Financial Tracking Service and based on international commitments during the current calendar year, while USG figures are according to the USG and reflect the most recent USG commitments based on the fiscal year, including FY 2019, which began on October 1, 2018, and FY 2020, which began on October 1, 2019.

CONTEXT

- Persistent food insecurity, widespread violence, and protracted population displacement, as well as recurrent droughts and floods, have characterized the complex emergency in Somalia since 1991. The current 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; IDPs and other vulnerable populations remain particularly susceptible to cyclical climatic shocks.
- On November 18, 2019, U.S. Ambassador Donald Y. Yamamoto redeclared a disaster for FY 2020 in response to the ongoing complex emergency in Somalia.
- USAID Administrator Mark Green reopened the USAID Mission in Mogadishu, which had closed in 1991 along with the former U.S. Embassy in Mogadishu, on June 17, 2019.

USG HUMANITARIAN FUNDING FOR THE SOMALIA RESPONSE IN FY 2020¹

IMPLEMENTING PARTNER	ACTIVITY	LOCATION	AMOUNT
USAID/OFDA¹			
Implementing Partners (IPs)	Health; Logistics Support and Relief Commodities; Nutrition; Protection; WASH	Countrywide	\$16,000,000
	Program Support		\$47,244
TOTAL USAID/OFDA FUNDING			\$16,047,244
USAID/FFP²			
IPs	865 MT in Local and Regional Procurement; Complementary Services	Countrywide	\$8,000,000
WFP	U.S. In-Kind Food Aid	Countrywide	\$5,816,726
TOTAL USAID/FFP FUNDING			\$13,816,726
State/PRM			

International Humanitarian Organizations	Multi-Sector Assistance; Protection; Refugee Assistance	Countrywide	\$10,000,000
TOTAL STATE/PRM FUNDING			\$10,000,000
TOTAL USG HUMANITARIAN FUNDING FOR THE SOMALIA RESPONSE IN FY 2020			\$39,863,970

USG HUMANITARIAN FUNDING FOR THE SOMALIA RESPONSE IN FY 2019¹

IMPLEMENTING PARTNER	ACTIVITY	LOCATION	AMOUNT
USAID/OFDA			
IPs	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	\$107,685,088
	Program Support		\$662,566
TOTAL USAID/OFDA FUNDING			\$108,347,654
USAID/FFP²			
IPs	930 MT of U.S. In-Kind Food Aid, Cash Transfers for Food, and Complementary Services	Countrywide	\$91,651,195
WFP	83,640 MT of U.S. In-Kind Food Aid; 5,916 MT of Local and Regional Procurement; Cash Transfers for Food	Countrywide	\$212,074,982
TOTAL USAID/FFP FUNDING			\$303,726,177
State/PRM			
International Humanitarian Organizations	Multi-Sector Assistance; Protection; Refugee Assistance	Countrywide	\$41,900,000
TOTAL STATE/PRM FUNDING			\$41,900,000
TOTAL USG HUMANITARIAN FUNDING FOR THE SOMALIA RESPONSE IN FY 2019			\$453,973,831

TOTAL USAID/OFDA FUNDING FOR THE SOMALIA RESPONSE IN FYs 2019–2020	\$124,394,898
TOTAL USAID/FFP FUNDING FOR THE SOMALIA RESPONSE IN FYs 2019–2020	\$317,542,903
TOTAL STATE/PRM FUNDING FOR THE SOMALIA RESPONSE IN FYs 2019–2020	\$51,900,000
TOTAL USG HUMANITARIAN FUNDING FOR THE SOMALIA RESPONSE IN FYs 2019–2020	\$493,837,801

¹ Year of funding indicates the date of commitment or obligation, not appropriation, of funds; USG funding represents publicly reported amounts as of April 29, 2020.

² Estimated value of food assistance and transportation costs at time of procurement; subject to change.

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.
- 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, dietarily, and environmentally appropriate assistance.
- More information can be found at:
 - USAID Center for International Disaster Information: www.cidi.org.
 - Information on relief activities of the humanitarian community can be found at 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>