

KEY HIGHLIGHTS

A new food and nutrition security assessment in areas projected to face or at risk of famine is currently underway, led by the Food Security and Nutrition Assessment Unit (FSNAU). Assessment results are anticipated in late November and will further inform understanding of the current food security and nutrition situation and define new projections for the January to June 2023 period.

The humanitarian food assistance provided by WFP and humanitarian partners has staved off the worst outcomes so far, but sustained assistance is critical in the coming months. In October, WFP provided assistance to over **4.3 million** relief beneficiaries, and also reached **559,000** people¹ with nutrition assistance.

WFP first line assistance reached over **125,000** people across **nine districts** in hard-to-reach areas. WFP is also expanding nutrition support in the hard-to-reach areas, with **560** people already receiving treatment support in Bulu Burte (Maxas) and Jalalaqsi.

WFP requires USD 416 million across all activities for the next six months (November 2022 to April 2023). This includes a **shortfall of USD 356 million for lifesaving relief food and nutrition**

IN NUMBERS

6.7 MILLION

facing crisis level food insecurity or worse (IPC 3+) in Oct-Dec 2022

1.8 MILLION

children facing acute malnutrition between Aug 2022-Jul 2023.

300,000

people facing catastrophic food insecurity, (IPC 5) in Oct-Dec 2022

4.3 MILLION

people assisted by WFP with relief assistance in October

559,000

people reached with nutrition assistance¹ in October

USD 356 MILLION

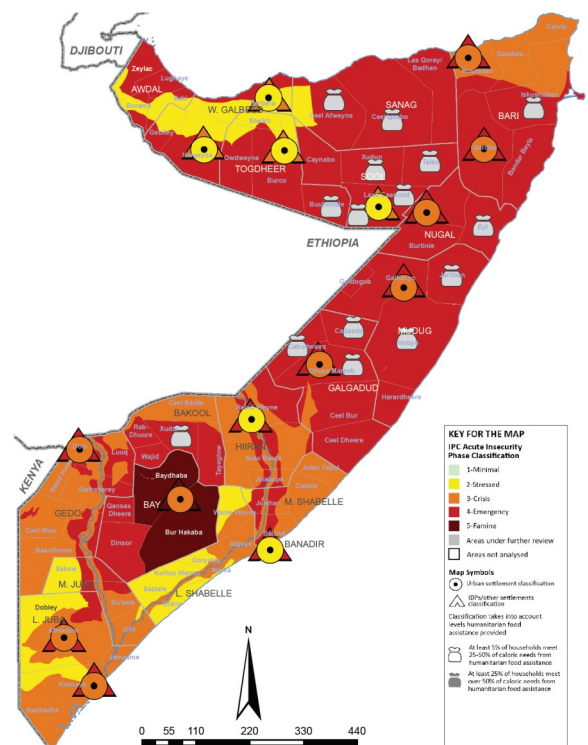
required by WFP for lifesaving relief food and nutrition assistance over the next 6 months

SITUATION UPDATE

The September country-wide [Food Security Integrated Phase Classification \(IPC\) Assessment](#) findings indicated that food insecurity and malnutrition rates would rise further and faster in the final quarter of the year. October to December 2022 projections indicated that approximately 6.7 million people (or 41% of the total population) would face Crisis or Worse outcomes (IPC Phase 3 or higher), including 2.2 million people in Emergency (IPC Phase 4) and 300,000 people facing Catastrophe (IPC Phase 5). Findings also indicated that between August 2022 and July 2023, 1.8 million children would face acute malnutrition, including over 513,000 facing severe acute malnourishment.

Subsequent to the results of the 2022 Post *Gu* food security, nutrition and mortality assessments and September IPC analyses results, a follow-up food and nutrition security assessment, in areas projected to face or at risk of famine, is currently underway and is being led by the Food Security and Nutrition Assessment Unit (FSNAU) with support from Somali National Bureau of Statistics (SNBS) and Ministry of Health. The data collection was completed in October and the assessment results are anticipated in late November, which will further inform understanding of the current food security and nutrition situation and define new projections for the January to June 2023 period.

¹ Nutrition figures comprise of all treatment and prevention-based nutrition assistance.



Acute Food Security Projection (Oct-Dec 2022)
 Source: Somalia IPC and risk analysis, Issued in Sep 2022

A [poor start to the October – December Deyr rainfall](#) has been recorded. Countries affected, including Somalia, are expected to receive rainfall totals that are 60 percent of average. A high probability of continued below-average rains through the remainder of the season is also predicted, resulting in an unprecedented fifth consecutive poor season. Preparations should be made for the likelihood that the March to May 2023 rainy season will also fall below average, which, contingent to its occurrence, would culminate in a record sixth consecutive poor season for the Horn of Africa region.

The ongoing humanitarian food assistance provided by WFP and humanitarian partners has staved off the worst outcomes so far. This said, levels of acute food insecurity across Somalia remain high and will further deteriorate if food assistance is not scaled up and sustained.

WFP Response

EMERGENCY FOOD ASSISTANCE

WFP provided assistance to over 4.3 million relief beneficiaries in October, of which 3.6 million people received cash transfers and around 738,000 people received in-kind support, with plans to expand and maintain assistance to 4.5 million people in the coming months. Total cash distributed to relief beneficiaries amounted to over USD 52 million, of which 50 percent was provided as mobile money, while the volume of in-kind commodities was over 9,600 MT. A majority of WFP's beneficiaries received cash-based transfers allowing for WFP to maintain beneficiary dignity, transparency, and efficiency during distribution cycles.

WFP is delivering first line assistance to vulnerable populations in line with the new Integrated Response Framework for Somalia, for immediate food delivery as part of its ongoing access expansion to hard-to-reach areas and for new IDP arrivals in formal and informal settlements across the country. By the end of October, over 125,000 people received the first line assistance across nine districts, namely Baidoa rural, Buur Hakaba, Ceel Buur, Haradhere, Bulu Burte, Jalalaqsi, Jamaame, Kurtunwararey and Hudur.

NUTRITION

559,000 people, including malnourished children and pregnant and lactating women, received WFP's treatment and malnutrition prevention support, out of which over 516,000 people received treatment-based nutrition support in October. WFP plans to maintain its nutrition assistance at scale to continue the monthly provision of nutrition support to at least 450,000 people over the coming months. Over 97,000 new children under five 5 years admitted for Moderate Acute Malnutrition treatment were reached in the month of October.

Nutrition prevention activities, suspended in the second quarter of 2022 due to resourcing constraints, were resumed in September at small scale. 42,000

people received malnutrition prevention support in October. WFP is also preparing for the implementation of a new cash for malnutrition prevention programme, targeting at risk children and pregnant and lactating women in selected vulnerable locations and IDP camps.

SCHOOL FEEDING

An estimated 2.4 million school-aged children have been affected by the drought across the country. Of these, 720,000 children who were attending school in 2021/22 are at risk of not returning to class. WFP is implementing school feeding in drought affected areas to ensure children return to and stay in school, and that they receive nutritious food. WFP resumed school feeding activities in August and reached around 88,000 people in October, including children in drought affected areas.

MONITORING

WFP's Community Feedback case management system recorded over 1,100 cases during October, of which a majority were gathered from the call centres and the remaining from field monitoring. Cases are categorized into four risk levels: high, medium, low and residual. 91 percent of such cases were categorized as "residual risk", as they related to beneficiaries' queries regarding project implementation processes and cash entitlements.

UNHAS

The United Nations Humanitarian Air Service (UNHAS) provides critical air services to help humanitarian actors reach the most in need, including in hard-to-reach and drought-affected areas. During October, UNHAS transported over 1900 passengers and 82 MT of relief items and urgent cargo to 18 destinations including drought-affected and other priority areas across Somalia.

UNHAS has also deployed a helicopter to deliver supplies and transport passengers to hard-to-reach locations where fixed-wings aircrafts cannot land. The rotations of new helicopter fleet allowed for the delivery of 32 MT of food and other relief items to three locations.

LOGISTICS CLUSTER

The Logistics Cluster continues to strengthen the operational capacity of partners to effectively implement famine prevention interventions. In October, the Cluster facilitated the transportation of over 200 MT of cargo to seven locations on behalf of eight partners.

Humanitarian access remains a concern due to insecurity, especially in areas under the control of armed non-state actors, creating high dependency on airlifts and increasing the cost and complexity of logistics operations.

FOOD SECURITY CLUSTER

The Food Security Cluster (FSC) focuses on two major pillars, lifesaving food assistance to meet the immediate needs of the most food insecure populations and livelihood assistance to protect livelihoods and support the restoration of community productive assets. FSC partners assisted 5.9 million people out of the 6.37 million FSC famine prevention operational target – translating to 93 percent achievement of the lifesaving target.

EMERGENCY TELECOMMUNICATIONS CLUSTER

The Emergency Telecommunications Cluster (ETC) was formally activated in Somalia in September. The Cluster will facilitate the enhancement and expansion of common ICT services for UN agencies and partners in support of the IASC corporate scale-up and support the establishment of field based interagency hubs for the delivery of humanitarian assistance.

The ETC is yet to receive funding for implementation of its planned services. USD 750,000 is urgently required to implement critical upgrades to the radio security communications infrastructure and expand the services to three additional locations over an initial period of three months.

HUMANITARIAN ACCESS

WFP has stepped up efforts to increase access into hard-to-reach areas affected by the drought. In these locations, humanitarian needs and the risk of famine remain high, however, access constraints (including insecurity, infrastructure and terrain) continue to prevent the most vulnerable from receiving food assistance.

WFP, UNICEF and WHO have developed a comprehensive access expansion operational plan to provide integrated emergency assistance to communities living in hard-to-reach rural locations, not covered by any assistance in the last six months. The agencies are working with other humanitarian partners to implement the plan in 16 locations which have the greatest needs and are hard-to-reach or inaccessible. This includes areas where famine is projected between October and December.

To mitigate further displacement, a first line assistance is being implemented with a focus on providing assistance to people in their home location, creating new channels for humanitarian access and paving the way for increased humanitarian presence in hard-to-reach areas. By October, first line assistance was deployed reaching over 125,000 people across nine districts. WFP is also expanding nutrition support in the identified hard-to-reach districts. For instance, in Bulu Burte (Maxas) and Jalalaqsi, WFP supported over 560 beneficiaries as part of its nutrition treatment activities.

RESOURCING OUTLOOK

WFP thanks all donors who have generously supported the people of Somalia with increased contributions for the famine prevention response. WFP requires USD 416 million across all activities for the next six months (November 2022 – April 2023). This includes a shortfall of USD 356 million for lifesaving relief and nutrition assistance, particularly for cash-based transfers, which constitutes the largest percentage of WFP's relief assistance in Somalia.

For emergency food assistance activities, with currently available resources, WFP's cash-based transfer requirements are covered through December 2022, while the in-kind food pipeline is covered through January 2022. In addition, a confirmed drought horizontal expansion of the government led national social safety net programme (Baxnaano) will support 930,000 people with emergency cash transfers from December 2022 to May 2023. WFP's nutrition treatment programmes are fully funded through June 2023 and global supply chain production shortfalls are being closely monitored and managed to avert a break in supplies. Significant gaps remain for nutrition prevention activities, and WFP Somalia is supporting a reduced caseload through in kind support and cash for nutrition pilot.

WFP FOOTPRINT



OUR DONORS



WFP is implementing the World Bank-financed Shock Responsive Safety Net for Human Capital and the Shock Responsive Safety Net for Locust Response projects on behalf of the Ministry of Labour and Social Affairs.

For more information

El-Khidir Daloum, Representative and Country Director
 Laura Turner, Deputy Country Director
 Muriel Calo, Deputy Head of Programme
 Ozal Pradhan, Operational Information Management

<https://www.wfp.org/emergencies/somalia-emergency>