

Somalia – Complex Emergency

SEPTEMBER 30, 2021

SITUATION AT A GLANCE

<p>5.9 MILLION</p> <p>Estimated People in Need of Humanitarian Assistance in Somalia</p> <p><i>UN – February 2021</i></p>	<p>3.5 MILLION</p> <p>People Projected to Experience Crisis or Worse Levels of Acute Food Insecurity Through December</p> <p><i>FSNAU – September 2021</i></p>	<p>3 MILLION</p> <p>Estimated Number of IDPs in Somalia</p> <p><i>UNHCR – August 2021</i></p>	<p>652,225</p> <p>Estimated Number of Somali Refugees in Neighboring Countries</p> <p><i>UNHCR – September 2021</i></p>	<p>71</p> <p>Security Incidents Impacting Humanitarian Operations in Somalia from April to June</p> <p><i>UN – September 2021</i></p>
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- Approximately 3.5 million people across Somalia are projected to face Crisis—IPC 3—or worse levels of acute food insecurity from October to December due to the combined effects of below-average rainfall, localized flooding, and conflict.
- Nearly 40,000 individuals across Somalia are facing mild-to-moderate drought conditions, which are anticipated to persist through 2022.
- More than 70 access-related incidents affected humanitarian operations in Somalia from April to June.



TOTAL U.S. GOVERNMENT HUMANITARIAN FUNDING For the Somalia Response in FY 2021	USAID/BHA ¹	\$368,647,270
	State/PRM ²	\$52,350,000
Total		\$420,997,270

For complete funding breakdown with partners, see detailed chart on page

¹ USAID's Bureau for Humanitarian Assistance (USAID/BHA)

² Total U.S. Department of State Bureau of Population, Refugees, and Migration (State/PRM) funding for the Somalia regional response in FY 2021 also includes \$42 million for Somali refugees in Djibouti, Ethiopia, and Kenya, bringing total USG emergency funding for the Somalia crisis regional response in FY 2021 to \$462,997,270.

KEY DEVELOPMENTS

3.5 Million People Projected to Face Acute Food Insecurity

As a result of the combined effects of poor and erratic rainfall, flooding, desert locusts, and conflict, nearly 3.5 million people are projected to face Crisis—IPC 3—or worse levels of acute food insecurity from October to December 2021 in the absence of humanitarian assistance, according to a report released in early September by the Famine Early Warning Systems Network (FEWS NET) and the UN Food Security and Nutrition Analysis Unit for Somalia (FSNAU).¹ The figure represents an increase of more than 60 percent compared to the July to September period, when approximately 2.2 million individuals faced Crisis or worse outcomes despite the presence of humanitarian nutrition and food assistance, which reached more than 1.6 million people per month between January and June 2021. During the same October to December period, approximately 1.2 million children younger than five years of age are likely to experience wasting, the deadliest form of malnutrition. Additionally, a majority of the nearly 3 million internally displaced persons (IDPs) in Somalia—who are highly reliant on external humanitarian assistance, have few income-earning opportunities, and limited access to livelihoods assets—are also anticipated to face moderate-to-large food consumption gaps through late 2021.

Cumulative rainfall for the April-to-June 2021 *gu* rainy season was below the 40-year average across much of the country, resulting in below-average crop production and poor harvest prospects that contributed to more severe food insecurity outcomes. Additionally, heavy rainfall between April and mid-May—though inadequate to replenish pasture and water resources—resulted in riverine flooding that displaced populations, damaged crops, and disrupted access to markets in flood-affected areas. Conflict and conflict-related displacement also contributed to crop damage as well as lower crop production for affected individuals. From October to December, food security conditions in Somalia are anticipated to further deteriorate due to anticipated below-average October-to-December *deyr* rains and continued conflict, among other factors.

Ongoing humanitarian assistance must be scaled up and sustained through December 2021 to address urgent food- and nutrition-related needs, according to FEWS NET and FSNAU. In response to current and anticipated food security conditions, USAID/BHA partners in Somalia continue to provide food assistance and nutrition support to food-insecure populations across Somalia.

40,000 People Across Somalia Facing Drought Conditions

Nearly 40,000 people across Somalia are facing mild-to-moderate drought conditions, as well as moderate-to-severe water shortages, as a result of the poor October-to-December 2020 *deyr* rains, harsh January-to-March *jilaal* dry season, and erratic April-to-June *gu* rains, the UN reports. Bakool, Bay, Gedo, and Middle Juba states are among the worst-affected and are currently experiencing moderate drought conditions; the semi-autonomous regions of Puntland and Somaliland are also experiencing water shortages. Drought conditions are anticipated to persist across Somalia through early 2022 as a result of current drought conditions and predicted below-average *deyr* rains. USAID/BHA partners continue to rehabilitate, maintain, and install water supply and treatment systems and conduct emergency water trucking, among other activities, to support the water-supply needs of individuals across Somalia.

¹ The Integrated Food Security Phase Classification (IPC) is a multi-partner initiative that developed a standardized scale to classify the severity and magnitude of food insecurity. The IPC scale, which is comparable across countries and time, ranges from Minimal—IPC 1—to Famine—IPC 5—for acute food insecurity.

Access Incidents Continue to Affect Humanitarian Operations

More than 70 access-related incidents affected humanitarian operations in Somalia from April to June, a nearly 20 percent decrease in the number of reported access incidents observed compared to the same period in 2020, according to a UN report released in early September. Armed hostilities continue to constrain access and generated more than 20 percent of access incidents for humanitarian actors during the period. Meanwhile, bureaucratic impediments and interference were cited as constraining factors in 15 incidents from April to June, marking a significant increase from the same period in 2020 when just five such incidents were reported; however, the increase is likely attributable to the UN-led Access Working Group's renewed focus on tracking bureaucratic impediments, the UN reports. Additionally, instances of heavy *gu* rainfall resulted in flooding and rendered some roads impassable, significantly constraining relief actors' ability to reach affected populations; during the period, 14 access incidents resulted from the challenging physical environment. In total, the Access Working Group recorded 165 humanitarian access incidents from January to August, according to the UN.

Less Than 40 Percent of 4 Million in Need of Assistance Reached

Less than 40 percent of the 4 million individuals prioritized for humanitarian assistance—or less than 30 percent of the overall 5.9 million individuals identified as in need of humanitarian assistance—by the 2021 Somalia Humanitarian Response Plan (HRP) had been reached with assistance as of August, according to the UN. As of August, the 2021 Somalia HRP had received \$480 million, or 44 percent, of the estimated \$1.1 billion required under the 2021 HRP to assist those targeted for humanitarian assistance, constraining relief actors' capacity to respond, the UN reports.

Forced Evictions Continue in Somalia, Generating Additional Needs

More than 1 million individuals were forcibly evicted from settlements across Somalia from 2017 to June 2021, according to a Norwegian Refugee Council (NRC) report released in September. From January to July 2021, nearly 74,500 individuals were evicted, though nearly 27,500 individuals were protected from spontaneous eviction through preventive engagement by humanitarian actors, including for improved administration of tenure agreements and advocacy, outreach, and awareness-raising activities related to housing, land, and property (HLP) rights. Forced evictions generate additional displacements, undermine integration and recovery efforts, and exacerbate protection risks for affected populations. Humanitarian efforts to prevent additional forced evictions are limited by lack of funding to address HLP concerns; limited access to land; and lack of local capacity, among other factors, according to the NRC report.

KEY FIGURES



**\$242.5
Million**

In dedicated USG
support for emergency
food assistance in FY
2021

U.S. GOVERNMENT RESPONSE

FOOD SECURITY

USAID/BHA supports the UN World Food Program (WFP), the UN Food and Agriculture Organization, and four international non-governmental organizations to provide emergency food assistance to IDPs, refugees, host community members, and other populations facing acute food insecurity in Somalia. With approximately \$209.8 million in FY 2021 funding for food assistance from USAID/BHA, partners are providing cash transfers for food, food vouchers, and in-kind food assistance—including U.S.-sourced commodities and locally, regionally, and internationally procured commodities—to reduce food consumption gaps at the household level and help prevent the deterioration of food security outcomes across Somalia.



\$26 Million

In dedicated USG support for health programming in FY 2021

HEALTH

USAID/BHA implementing partners are working to enhance access to basic health services across all regions of Somalia through integrated health, nutrition, protection, and water, sanitation, and hygiene (WASH) programs. USAID/BHA partners provide medical supplies, support health centers, and train community health workers to address urgent health needs. In addition, State/PRM partners support essential health interventions for IDPs and other vulnerable populations countrywide, including conflict-affected individuals.



\$26 Million

In dedicated USG support for WASH programming in FY 2021

WASH

USAID/BHA and State/PRM support WASH programming throughout Somalia to prevent outbreaks of communicable diseases such as cholera. USG funding supports critical WASH activities, including hygiene awareness sessions, rehabilitating water systems destroyed by conflict and natural hazards, and providing safe drinking water and sanitation to populations in need.



\$61.5 Million

In dedicated USG support for nutrition programming in FY 2021

NUTRITION

USAID/BHA supports WFP and seven other implementing partners on the forefront of efforts to prevent, identify, and treat wasting across Somalia. By training local stakeholders on how to effectively manage wasting, USAID/BHA partners support existing community-based nutrition systems geared toward decreasing morbidity and mortality resulting from malnutrition across Somalia. Nutritional programming also supports evidence-based management of malnutrition through focusing on children and pregnant and lactating women in particular.

CONTEXT IN BRIEF

- 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 their basic needs, reduce wasting, rebuild assets, and protect livelihoods.
- Recurrent drought conditions and seasonal flooding have amplified conflict-related humanitarian needs in Somalia; IDPs and other vulnerable populations remain particularly susceptible to cyclical climatic shocks.
- On October 26, 2020, U.S. Ambassador Donald Y. Yamamoto redeclared a disaster for FY 2021 in response to the ongoing complex emergency in Somalia.
- On June 17, 2019, USAID Administrator Mark Green reopened the USAID Mission in Mogadishu, which had closed in 1991 along with the former U.S. Embassy.

USG HUMANITARIAN FUNDING FOR THE SOMALIA RESPONSE IN FY 2021¹

IMPLEMENTING PARTNER	ACTIVITY	LOCATION	AMOUNT
USAID/BHA			
Implementing Partners (IPs)	Agriculture; Economic Recovery and Market Systems; Food Assistance—Cash Transfers; Health; Humanitarian Coordination, Information Management, and Assessments; Multipurpose Cash Assistance (MPCA); Natural Hazards and Technological Risks; Nutrition; Protection; Shelter and Settlements; WASH	Countrywide	\$191,569,419
WFP	Food Assistance—Cash Transfers, Food Vouchers, and Local, Regional, and International Procurement; Logistics Support; Nutrition	Countrywide	\$125,050,000
	Food Assistance—28,560 Metric Tons (MT) of U.S. In-Kind Food Aid;	Countrywide	\$51,963,895
	Program Support		\$63,956
TOTAL USAID/BHA FUNDING			\$368,647,270
STATE/PRM			
IPs	Camp Coordination and Camp Management, Education, Health, Logistics Support, MPCA, Nutrition, Protection, Shelter and Settlements, WASH	Countrywide	\$52,350,000
TOTAL STATE/PRM FUNDING²			\$52,350,000
TOTAL USG FUNDING FOR COMPLEX EMERGENCY IN SOMALIA IN FY 2021			\$420,997,270

¹ Year of funding indicates the date of commitment or obligation, not appropriation, of funds. Funding figures reflect publicly announced funding as of September 30, 2021.

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 [interaction.org](https://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: [cidi.org](https://www.cidi.org)
 - Information on relief activities of the humanitarian community can be found at [reliefweb.int](https://www.reliefweb.int).

USAID/BHA bulletins appear on the USAID website at [usaid.gov/humanitarian-assistance/where-we-work](https://www.usaid.gov/humanitarian-assistance/where-we-work)