

## CONTEXT

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- Four consecutive below-average rainy seasons between 2020 and 2022 have resulted in a historic drought across the Horn of Africa, affecting more than 7.8 million people in Somalia, according to the UN. Drought conditions have led to severe water shortages, driving household water insecurity for an estimated 3.9 million people and the deaths of at least 3 million livestock, decimating livelihoods and reducing access to milk—a critical source of nutrition for pastoral households. Drought prompted more than 1.1 million people to flee their homes between January 2021 and August 2022, many in search of water, food, and pasture.
- An estimated 6.7 million people are likely to experience Crisis—IPC 3—or worse levels of acute food insecurity in Somalia between October and December amid forecasts of a fifth poor rainy season, according to an IPC analysis from early September.<sup>1</sup> Of that total, an estimated 2.2 million people will likely face Emergency—IPC 4—levels of acute food insecurity and 300,000 people will likely face Catastrophe—IPC 5—outcomes. The IPC Famine Review Committee (FRC), a team of independent food security and nutrition experts, concluded on September 5 that Famine—IPC 5—is projected in two districts of Somalia’s Bay Region between October and December if increased humanitarian assistance fails to reach individuals most in need amid forecasts of prolonged drought conditions.
- Needs also remain critically high in areas outside of Bay, where urgent assistance is required to mitigate acute food insecurity and malnutrition, according to the Famine Early Warning Systems Network (FEWS NET). Food security monitors have reported that eight areas of central and southern Somalia, including Bay, face the risk of famine-like conditions if poor crop and livestock production, high food prices, and insufficient humanitarian assistance continue, FEWS NET reports. An estimated 1.8 million children ages five years and younger are likely to experience wasting—the deadliest form of malnutrition—through June 2023, representing more than half of the total number of children in Somalia, according to an IPC analysis.



## ASSISTANCE

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- In Fiscal Years (FYs) 2021 and 2022, USAID’s Bureau for Humanitarian Assistance (USAID/BHA) provided nearly \$1.2 billion to non-governmental organizations (NGOs) and UN partners delivering emergency assistance and nearly \$5 million for early recovery, risk reduction, and resilience (ER4) interventions in Somalia. USAID/BHA support in Somalia includes emergency food assistance, nutrition treatment, safe drinking water, and emergency health care, among other life-saving programs.

<sup>1</sup> The 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. A Famine—IPC 5—classification applies to a wider geographical location, while the term classification of Catastrophe—also IPC 5—refers to a household. A household in Catastrophe has an extreme lack of food at the household level even with full employment of coping strategies. Famine is determined when more than 20 percent of households in an area are experiencing Catastrophe, when global acute malnutrition levels exceed 30 percent, and when the crude mortality rate exceeds two people per 10,000 persons per day.

- With USAID/BHA support, the UN World Food Program (WFP) expanded its emergency food and nutrition operations to respond to severe acute food insecurity and malnutrition outcomes in conflict- and drought-affected areas of the country in 2022. WFP provided cash transfers for food and in-kind food to an estimated 4.4 million Somalis during August alone, more than doubling the number of people that received assistance compared to April, when WFP reached approximately 1.7 million people with assistance. USAID/BHA announced an additional contribution to WFP in September, enabling the UN agency to continue providing food assistance to 3.6 million people through cash transfers and vouchers through the end of the year. Overall, WFP aims to provide cash and in-kind food assistance to as many as 4.5 million people each month between October and December. WFP and other USAID/BHA partners are also providing critical nutrition support, conducting community-level screenings for wasting and supplying specialized nutritional products to treat acutely malnourished children at hospitals and clinics. WFP provided nutrition services, including treatment for wasting, to approximately 436,000 individuals in August.
- During FY 2022, USAID/BHA partners provided safe drinking water to hundreds of thousands of individuals through the creation and rehabilitation of boreholes and wells, as well as water trucking services. USAID/BHA partners also improved access to sanitation facilities, decreasing the distance that individuals, particularly children and women, must travel to reach basic sanitation facilities. USAID/BHA partners also provided health care services and supported health centers and mobile health and nutrition units, which provide hard-to-reach populations with access to life-saving services, through the provision of medicines, health supplies, and training for health workers.
- Amid widespread conflict- and drought-induced displacement, USAID/BHA partners continue to provide internally displaced persons (IDPs) with shelter supplies and other essential relief items to help IDPs meet basic needs and protect displaced populations from adverse weather conditions. One USAID/BHA partner provided emergency shelters, including high quality plastic sheets, to more than 63,600 individuals between January and August. Further, USAID/BHA partners at IDP sites are providing frontline support, including emergency food assistance, nutrition support, and health care, to newly displaced IDPs.

USAID/BHA Funding in Somalia <sup>2</sup>			
	Emergency <sup>3</sup>	ER4	TOTAL
FY 2021	\$364,147,269	-	\$364,147,269
FY 2022	\$814,544,343	\$4,900,000	\$819,444,343

<sup>2</sup> Year of funding indicates the date of commitment or obligation, not appropriation, of funds. Funding figures reflect publicly announced funding as of September 21, 2022. Totals include estimated value of food assistance and transportation costs at time of procurement; subject to change.

<sup>3</sup> Includes funding for programs that integrate ER4 activities with emergency response.