

CONTEXT

- Five 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 6.4 million people, resulting in at least 3 million livestock deaths, decimating livelihoods, and reducing access to milk—a critical source of nutrition for pastoral households.
- While humanitarian assistance efforts temporarily averted the worst food security outcomes between October and December 2022, prolonged drought conditions continue to drive heightened levels of humanitarian need, with an estimated 6.4 million people likely to experience Crisis—IPC 3—or worse levels of acute food insecurity in Somalia between January and March 2023, according to an IPC analysis from mid-December.¹ Of that total, an estimated 2.7 million people will likely face Emergency—IPC 4—levels of acute food insecurity and nearly 322,000 people will likely face Catastrophe—IPC 5—outcomes. Amid forecasts of a sixth poor rainy season, the IPC anticipates food insecurity may further deteriorate between April and June with 8.3 million people—roughly one-half of the country’s population—expected to face Crisis or worse food outcomes. Of this population, 2.7 million people and 727,000 people are likely to face Emergency and Catastrophe levels of acute food insecurity, respectively. As of mid-December, the IPC Famine Review Committee, a team of independent food security and nutrition experts, had also projected Famine—IPC 5—in three areas of Somalia’s Bay Region and in the country’s capital city of Mogadishu is likely between April and June, amid forecasts of prolonged drought conditions and if humanitarian assistance is not scaled up.
- Drought prompted more than 1.2 million people to flee their homes between January 2021 and November 2022, many in search of water, food, and pasture in nearby towns or at internally displaced person (IDP) sites. Drought-induced displacement has contributed to widespread, multi-sector humanitarian needs across Somalia, increasing the potential spread of disease and worsening the risk that children discontinue their education.



ASSISTANCE

- In Fiscal Year (FY) 2022, USAID’s Bureau for Humanitarian Assistance (USAID/BHA) provided nearly \$814 million to non-governmental organizations (NGOs) and UN agency partners delivering emergency assistance and nearly

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. 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.

\$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.

- With USAID/BHA support, the UN World Food Program (WFP) continued 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 nearly 3.5 million Somalis during November. Moreover, WFP provided nutrition services—including treatment for wasting, a life-threatening form of malnutrition—to approximately 483,000 individuals during the same period. The UN agency is also supporting drought-affected populations with critical nutrition support, conducting community-level screenings for wasting, and supplying specialized nutritional products to treat acutely malnourished children at hospitals and clinics.
- Amid widespread conflict- and drought-induced displacement, USAID/BHA partners continue to provide IDPs with shelter supplies and other essential relief items to help meet their basic needs and protect displaced populations from adverse weather conditions. One USAID/BHA partner provided emergency shelters, including high quality plastic sheets, to an estimated 3,100 individuals during December. Further, USAID/BHA partners are providing safe drinking water at IDP sites, reaching more than 28,000 IDPs in Gedo, Lower Juba, and Mudug regions with water trucking services between July and December.

USAID/BHA Funding in Somalia ²			
	Emergency ³	ER4	TOTAL
FY 2022	\$813,854,799	\$4,900,000	\$818,754,799
FY 2023	\$411,422,073	-	\$411,422,073

² Year of funding indicates the date of commitment or obligation, not appropriation, of funds. Funding figures reflect publicly announced funding as of December 13, 2022. Totals include estimated value of food assistance and transportation costs at time of procurement; subject to change.

³ Includes funding for programs that integrate ER4 activities with emergency response.