



Food and Agriculture
Organization of the
United Nations



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Somalia

Humanitarian Response Plan 2018



to assist

2.7 million people



FAO requires

USD 236.5 million



period

January – December 2018

Investment to protect and restore livelihoods is needed to save lives and reduce humanitarian need and related expenditure.

In 2016–2017, Somalia faced one of its harshest droughts in recent history. However, the ongoing drought has not led to famine thanks primarily to large-scale humanitarian assistance. While the last *deyr* rains (October–December 2017) were slightly better than anticipated, sustained humanitarian assistance and support to livelihood recovery are needed in 2018 to prevent further deterioration of the food security and nutrition situation.

Objectives

FAO is working with partners in the Food Security Cluster to:

- Improve immediate access to food through cash transfers.
- Protect and restore livelihoods, related food and income sources.
- Build resilience against current and future shocks.

FAO also contributes to the Nutrition, Enabling Programmes and WASH Clusters.

Activities



Respond to drought

tailored cash-based interventions | animal health | livestock feed and water | fall armyworm preparedness and response



Support early IDP returns and their communities

integrated humanitarian assistance from FAO (livelihood support) and NGO partners (WASH, non-food items and other support)



Improve nutrition of vulnerable households

nutrition awareness raising | training | kitchen gardening | school gardens | emergency nutrition surveys | food hygiene, conservation and processing



Build resilient livelihoods

early warning | risk management | crop production | training | livestock restocking | tailored cash-based interventions | pest and disease management



Inform, analyse and coordinate

Food Security and Nutrition Analysis Unit | Somalia Water and Land Information Management | information for decision-making

Situation analysis



2.7 million people
severely food insecure



301 000 children
under five acutely malnourished

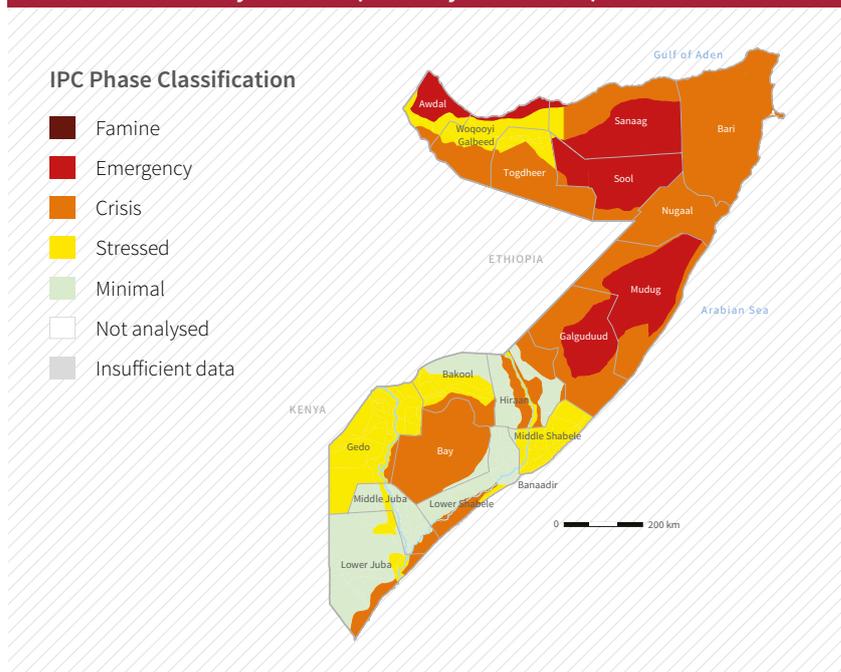


2.2 million IDPs, of
which **1 million** were displaced
by drought alone in 2017



86% of people in Emergency
(IPC Phase 4) live in rural areas

Acute food insecurity situation (February – June 2018)



Source: Somalia IPC Technical Working Group, January 2018

Impact on food security

Most of Somalia's acutely food-insecure people are rural. They make up 60 percent of Somalis facing Crisis and Emergency (IPC Phases 3-4), and 86 percent of those in Emergency (IPC Phase 4). The food security status of rural families can deteriorate very quickly, as seen in the first half of 2017 when the rural population in IPC Phase 4 rose from 44 000 to 674 000 people between January and May. Over the last two years, successive seasons of poor rainfall led to consecutive poor harvests, significant livestock losses and food price increases. Worryingly, forecasts point to a fifth season of below-average rains during gu (April-June) – when most of Somalia's staple food is grown. Internal displacement nearly doubled in the past year to more than 2 million people, primarily driven by drought.

A poor rural family's ability to eat depends on how much food it produces, trades or sells. The last four cereal harvests of 2016–2017 were poor, ranging 22–70 percent below average. An estimated 6.4 million livestock have died due to the drought. Poor families – who had few animals to begin with – lost a greater proportion of their herd and risk long-term destitution. Families also face price shocks as tightened food supplies drive prices up. As prices rise, poor families reduce portion sizes, cut nutritious food from their diet and skip meals. People are deep in debt and cannot access further loans. Much of their meagre production goes to repay past loans. This has been the grinding reality of rural life for two years.