



WFP/Alessandro Abbondizio



World Food Programme

SAVING
LIVES
CHANGING
LIVES

REGIONAL DROUGHT RESPONSE PLAN

For the Horn of Africa

Delivering life-saving food and nutrition support, and building life-changing livelihoods, food systems and school-based programmes to strengthen long-term climate resilience.

January –
December
2023

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EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

After five consecutive below-average rains, the humanitarian crisis in the Horn of Africa is expanding and deepening. Combined with insecurity and macroeconomic volatility, the impact of the drought on food and nutrition security has been devastating. Across Ethiopia, Kenya and Somalia, an estimated **22 million people are now acutely food insecure because of the drought**. The malnutrition situation is also critical. Some **5.1 million children across drought-affected areas of the three countries are acutely malnourished in 2023**, with dire implications for their health, growth and survival. Concerningly, the upcoming March-May 2023 rains are also forecast to be below-average. Should these rains fail, and humanitarian assistance not be delivered at scale, food insecurity will continue to deteriorate.

Regardless of how the 2023 rains perform, **extremely high humanitarian needs will persist through 2023 while a full recovery from a drought of this magnitude will take years**. To address the devastating drought-induced hunger and malnutrition across the region, WFP is pursuing an integrated dual track approach; **meeting immediate life-saving food and nutritional needs while simultaneously building resilience to extreme climate variability**.

Life-saving: WFP has scaled-up its crisis response to reach record numbers of people, pushing deeper into hard-to-reach areas and averting the worst outcomes so far. This includes:

- 1. Relief food assistance:** Delivering life-saving relief through food and cash to the most food-insecure people in the most drought-affected areas.
- 2. Nutrition:** Preventing and treating moderate acute malnutrition in young children and pregnant and breastfeeding women.
- 3. Logistics and common services:** Augmenting the logistics, air services and telecommunications capacity of governments and partners to deliver urgent humanitarian assistance to the most affected areas.

Life-changing: Life-saving food and nutrition interventions are complemented by investments that protect development gains and strengthen communities' resilience to shocks. These interventions include capacity strengthening for national and local governments as first line responders in crises. Activities include:

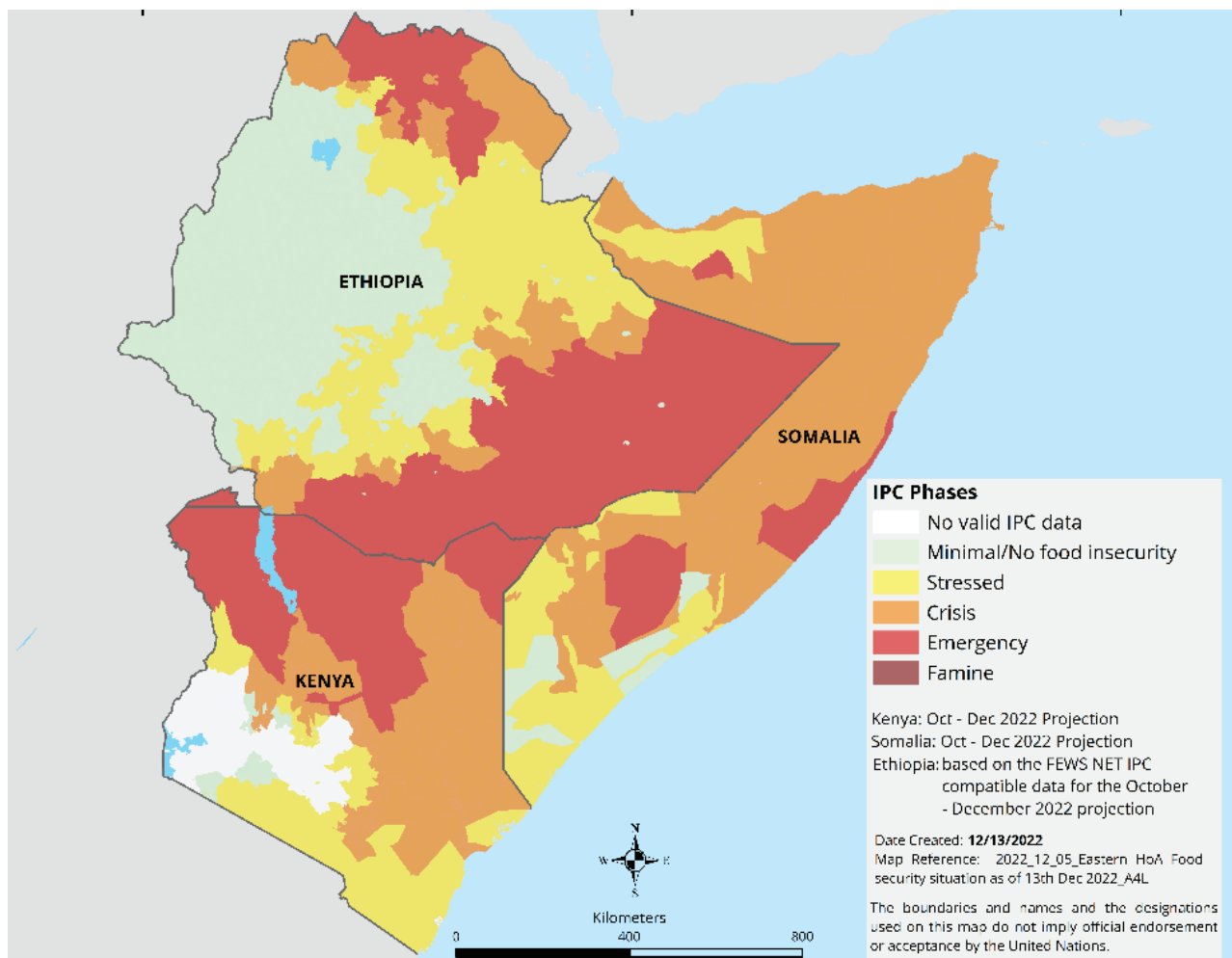
- 1. Livelihoods, food systems and climate resilience:** Supporting families, markets and communities to make resilience gains and create pathways for sustainable recovery.
- 2. School-based programmes:** Providing nutritious school meals to children in areas severely affected by drought, supporting education, human capital and food security.

To address this wide array of sectors, WFP is collaborating with a broad range of partners. Across the three most drought-affected countries, **WFP has 130 cooperating partners, 96 of which are local and national NGOs (74 percent), a testament to WFP's strong commitment to the localization agenda**, and ensuring communities have agency over their own response.

WFP is already on the ground, providing millions of people with life-saving assistance every day. Since mid-2021, thanks to the generosity of its partners, **WFP has more than doubled relief assistance across drought-affected areas of the Horn of Africa from 4 to over 8.8 million food relief beneficiaries every month**. However, humanitarian needs continue to outstrip WFP's substantial expansion.

To this end, this document provides an overview of WFP's regional response to the drought and accompanying financial requirements. **In 2023, WFP is urgently calling for USD 2.4 billion to help avert a major humanitarian crisis in the Horn of Africa and support 8.8 million people affected by the drought with monthly lifesaving relief**. Responding **now** is necessary to avert a humanitarian catastrophe, prevent suffering, protect dignity and save lives.

Figure 1: Food insecurity in the Horn of Africa as of December 2022 (Source: IPC & FEWS NET)



KEY FIGURES & TARGETS

Drought in the Horn of Africa



22 million people are acutely food insecure (IPC 3+) across the Horn of Africa because of the devastating drought. This is almost double the 13 million at the beginning of 2022.



5.1 million children are acutely malnourished in drought-affected areas of Kenya, Somalia and Ethiopia, including 3.7 million moderately malnourished. In addition, **1.3 million pregnant and breastfeeding women in drought-affected areas need nutritional support** to ensure the health of themselves and their children.



Almost 40 percent of Somalis are acutely food insecure in the first quarter of 2023. Moreover, **320,000 are facing catastrophic hunger** with a risk of famine (IPC 5), the most severe and life-threatening classification of hunger.



Across the Horn of Africa, over **1.7 million people have been internally displaced from their homes** seeking food, water and relief. More than **70,000 new refugees and asylum seekers have also arrived in drought-affected areas** since January 2022.

WFP Targets & Requirements



Since mid-2021, **WFP has more than doubled our monthly relief assistance across drought-affected areas from 4 to 8.8 million food relief beneficiaries.**



WFP is cooperating with 130 partners across the three countries, 96 of which are local and national NGOs (74%), a testament to WFP's commitment to the localization agenda.



In 2023, WFP needs **USD 2.4 billion** to meet the urgent relief food assistance needs of **8.8 million drought-affected people** in the Horn of Africa.



WFP Ethiopia needs USD 728.8 million to reach 3.3 million people.



WFP Kenya needs USD 339 million to reach 960,000 people.



WFP Somalia needs USD 1.3 billion to reach 4.5 million people.



REGIONAL DROUGHT OVERVIEW

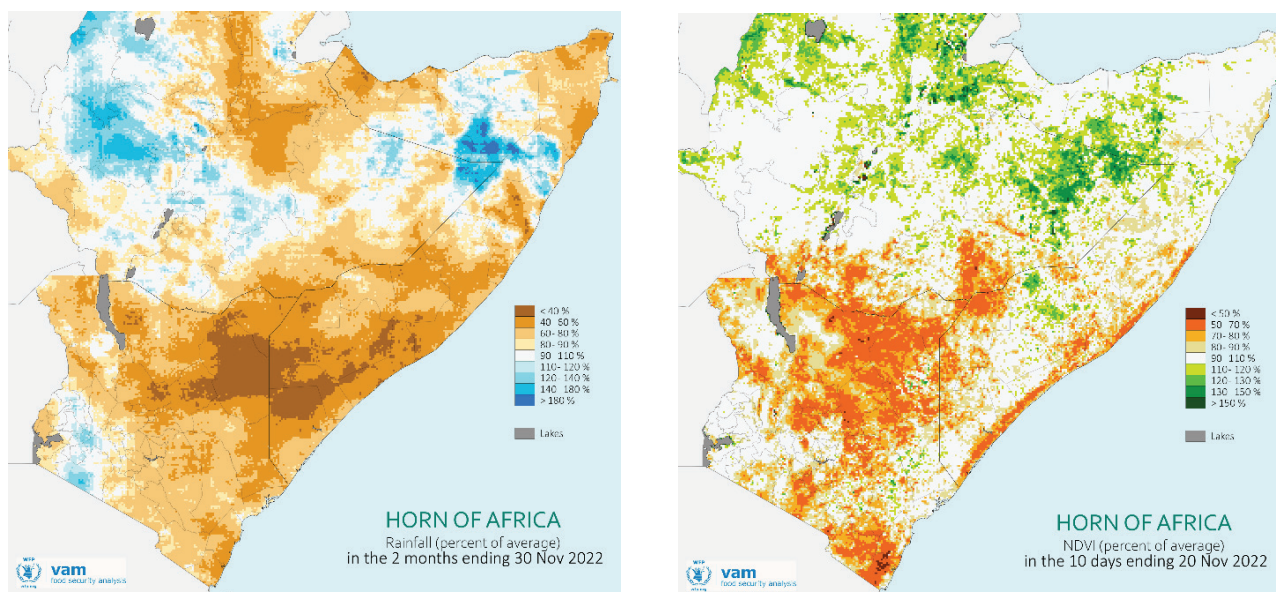
Ethiopia, Kenya, and Somalia collectively contribute just 0.6 percent of global greenhouse gas emissions.¹ Yet, the three countries are suffering the consequences of a global climate crisis they didn't create. **Since 2016, only two of the 12 rainy seasons across the pastoral, lowland areas of Ethiopia, Kenya and Somalia have been normal.**

"Beginning with a La Niña-related drought in 2016, the region experienced eight below-normal rainy seasons, broken by extreme rains in 2018, 2019 and 2020, followed by a severe desert locust outbreak. Only (the October-December rains in) 2017 and 2018 have been normal seasons."²

With five consecutive below-average rains already, this is the longest and most severe drought the Horn has experienced in recent history and will continue to drive hunger and humanitarian needs well into 2023.³ For comparison, the devastating 2011 famine in Somalia, that led to the death of over a quarter million people, was triggered by two back-to-back failed rains. Given changing demographics and the protracted duration of the current crisis, **the cumulative levels of excess mortality risk becoming as high, if not higher, than 2011,** even if a famine is not declared⁴.

Given the depressed rains, **most areas continue to experience severe vegetation deficits with significant impacts on pastoralist and agro-pastoralist livelihoods.** Figure 1 portrays the below-average rainfall (left map) and vegetation conditions (right map) as of November 2022. **Inadequate availability of water and pasture has led to over 9.5 million excess livestock deaths since the drought started** (4 million in Ethiopia, 3 million in Somalia, and 2.5 million in Kenya), eroding the primary source of livelihoods, income and nutrition for pastoralist communities.⁵ As water points and vegetation remain critically limited, even with rains livestock recovery will be slow, affecting the production, availability, and consumption of milk among pastoral and agropastoral communities throughout 2023.

Figure 2: Rainfall and vegetation anomalies in the Horn of Africa (November 2022)⁶



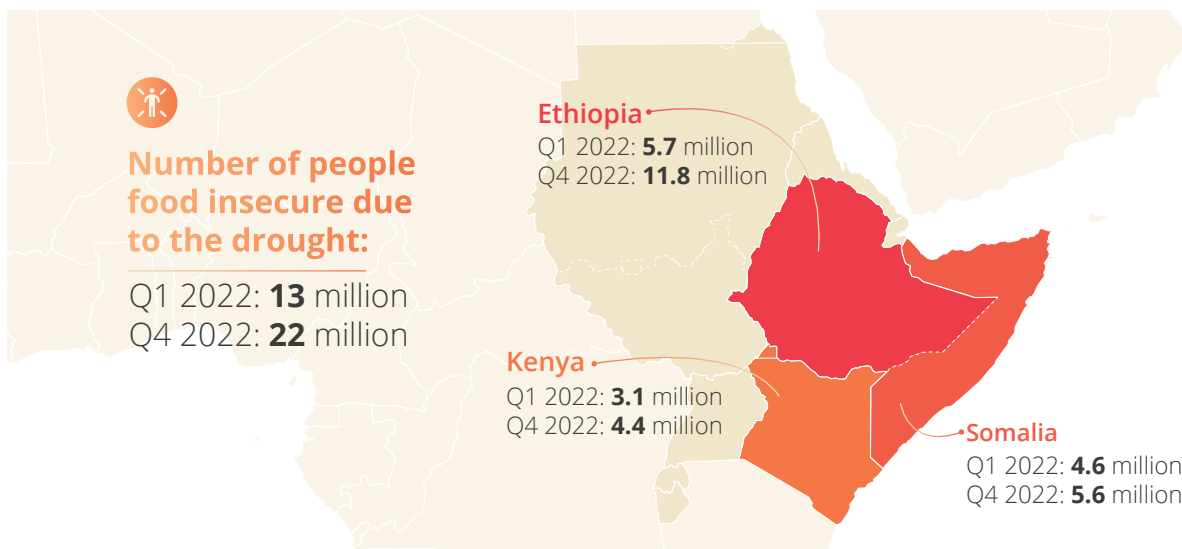
Concerningly, there is broad consensus among meteorological agencies that there will likely be a continuation of below-average rains during the March to May 2023 rainy season. Although long-lead forecasts have an inherent degree of uncertainty, should these rains fail, it would culminate in a record sixth consecutive poor rain, with dire implications on the region's food security.

THE FOOD AND NUTRITION CRISIS

The food security, malnutrition and broader humanitarian implications of this drought are severe and wide-ranging. The following presents the key implications of the drought for the WFP response:


1 **Increasing number and severity of food insecure populations: 22 million people are acutely food insecure across the Horn of Africa as of December 2022 because of the drought.** This is a significant and concerning increase from the 13 million people hungry in early 2022. In Somalia alone, some 5.6 million people need regular relief food assistance, of whom over 200,000 face Catastrophic hunger (IPC Phase 5), the most severe and life-threatening form.⁷ **Should the coming rains fail and humanitarian assistance not be delivered at scale, the number of acutely food insecure in Somalia alone is projected to increase to 8.2 million between April and June 2023.** Similarly, in southern and eastern Ethiopia, IPC-compatible analyses show widespread Emergency (IPC Phase 4) area classifications and indicate there are likely also households in Catastrophe (IPC Phase 5). The Food Security & Livelihoods Cluster estimates 11.8 million are severely food insecure in these areas of Ethiopia due to drought.⁸ In Kenya, levels of food insecurity are also unprecedented. An estimated 4.4 million Kenyans were food insecure (IPC 3+) in December 2022, including 1.2 million in IPC 4 (Emergency).⁹ Figure 4 below illustrates regional changes in food insecurity driven by drought during 2022.


Figure 3: Number of people acutely food insecure due to the drought (Q1 vs Q4 2022)




1 **Levels of malnutrition are at emergency levels in all three countries:** The number of malnourished women and children has skyrocketed due to a lack of food, access to clean water and health services and disease outbreaks. An estimated **5.1 million children are acutely malnourished in drought affected areas of Kenya, Somalia and Ethiopia in 2023**, including 3.7 million moderately malnourished.¹⁰ **In Somalia alone, every second child is malnourished (54 percent) and “one child is admitted for medical treatment for malnutrition every minute”¹¹.** Increasing malnutrition levels have also been recorded **in Kenya, where the number of children requiring treatment for acute malnutrition has risen by 36 percent from 653,000 to 885,000 between August 2021 and 2022.**¹²

Similarly, **maternal malnutrition** is at emergency levels with **1.3 million pregnant and breastfeeding women (PBW) in drought-affected areas requiring nutritional support across the three countries.** Unless support is scaled to reach the most nutritionally vulnerable women and children, there is a risk of unprecedented levels of mortality. WFP is thus expanding both prevention and treatment of malnutrition across the region using in-kind specialized nutritious foods as well as innovative approaches such as cash-based transfers and vouchers combined with nutrition support to reach more children and women in the community and at home. **Acutely malnourished children have a 7 to 10 times higher likelihood of death and must be prioritized.**¹³

 **Food and fuel prices continue to rise across Eastern Africa, negatively affecting the food consumption of drought-affected families.** Household purchasing power among agro-pastoralists and pastoralists has been severely affected by the drought. In September 2022, **the average price of a local food basket in East Africa had increased 56 percent over the preceding twelve months.**¹⁴ This increase in food prices has been attributed to both the drought, and global increases in fuel and transportation costs. For example, **the cost of imported wheat in East Africa has increased by 58 percent since the conflict in Ukraine started.**¹⁵ Similarly, in **Somalia, fuel prices have almost doubled** compared to October 2021. The compound effect of higher fuel prices and reduced yields (due to drought) have hit food prices, making basic foods more expensive.

 **Forced displacement and increased protection concerns are on the rise:** The **drought has driven over 1.7 million people from their homes** in search of food, water and essential services.¹⁶ In Kenya, the drought is contributing to a new wave of refugee arrivals as people flee their homes in Somalia in search of food and water. In Somalia itself, over 1.1 million people have been internally displaced due to the ongoing drought since 2021.¹⁷ These forced displacements increase the risk of communities competing over scarce resources¹⁸ and expose women, children and the elderly to a range of protection risks. For example, the London School of Hygiene and Tropical Medicine and Johns Hopkins University estimated that **during the 2011 famine, 1 in 10 IDP children in areas of Somalia died due to famine-related mortality**, illustrating the extreme pressures displacement can have on people's lives.¹⁹

The drought and corresponding food insecurity also creates additional protection concerns for vulnerable families, with a disproportionate impact on children, older people, women, people living with disabilities and other disadvantaged and marginalized groups. For example, HelpAge International found that **more than half of older people across the three countries reported only eating one meal per day, with many reporting not even having one meal.**²⁰ Food insecurity also increases families' adoption of negative coping strategies including child labour, survival sex, and unsustainable debt. In areas of Kenya due to eroded household purchasing power, "a deeply concerning and unsustainable practice of incurring debt to access water and purchase essential goods has emerged, with female-headed households particularly affected."²¹ Similarly, a survey from CARE in Somalia found that **56 percent of women surveyed had to travel more than 30 minutes to safely access water, increasing their vulnerability to violence.**²² In Somalia, there has been a 21 percent increase in reporting of sexual violence and a 60 percent increase in reporting of intimate partner violence from January 2022, with similar patterns in Kenya and Ethiopia.²³ Only by addressing the multiple needs of boys, girls, men, women and specific populations can the impacts of drought be effectively mitigated.

 **Hunger is negatively impacting children and their education:** Hunger affects children's concentration and ability to learn. In times of drought, many children are unable to go to school because their families need them to help bring in income or perform domestic duties. **The impact is already evident in Ethiopia, Kenya, and Somalia where the number of children out of school due to the drought alone is alarmingly high at 2.7 million.**²⁴ **An additional 4 million children are at risk of dropping out.** This exposes large numbers of adolescent girls to increased risk of gender-based violence, including female genital mutilation, underage marriage and sexual violence. In some Somali communities, families have stopped sending girls to school, prioritizing boys as they cannot afford school fees for all children.²⁵ In Ethiopia, protection actors report that boys are leaving school as they are expected to join livelihood activities or are at increased risk of recruitment into armed groups. As a result, child marriage in Ethiopia has increased by an average of 119 percent across regions worst hit by the drought.²⁶ Accordingly, efforts to ensure schools remain open and children continue to attend, including school feeding are paramount.

WFP DROUGHT RESPONSE

This section outlines WFP's humanitarian, resilience and climate adaptation programmes in each of the drought-affected countries of Ethiopia, Kenya and Somalia. Each country analysis covers three components: 1) a brief overview of national drought conditions; 2) WFP's programmatic response to the drought, and 3) WFP's associated financial requirements.



1. Somalia

1.1. Drought Overview:

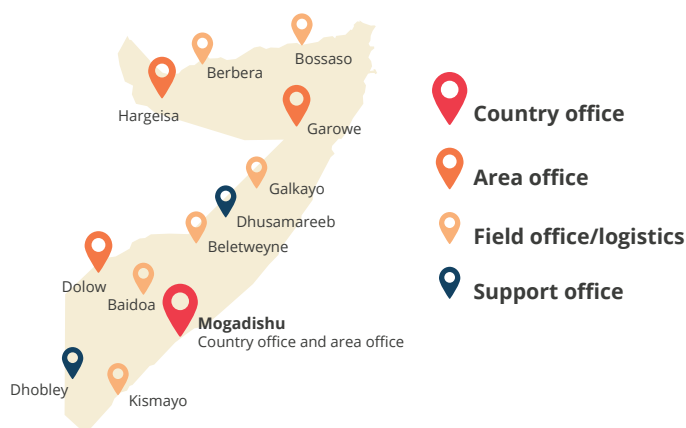
WFP remains committed to saving lives as Somalia faces catastrophic food insecurity and severe malnutrition brought on by the longest drought in over four decades. **The latest IPC assessment released in December 2022 indicates that 5.6 million people (33 percent of the Somali population) faced acute food insecurity (IPC Phase 3 and above) in the October-December 2022 period.** This includes an estimated 214,000 people facing Catastrophic hunger (IPC Phase 5).²⁷ Compounding food insecurity, **1.8 million children (over half of Somalia's under 5 population) are estimated to suffer from acute malnutrition through July 2023.**²⁸ Forecasts for the period between January to March 2023 warn of possible increase in the number of acute food insecurity reaching up to 6.3 million people (IPC Phase 3+), of which 322,000 are likely to face Catastrophic hunger (IPC Phase 5). In September 2022, the Famine Review Committee (FRC) identified a risk of famine for several population groups in Bay Region contingent on insufficient expansion of humanitarian assistance, intensified insecurity, and further worsening of drought conditions. **Timely and adequate expansion of humanitarian assistance helped avert famine in the last quarter of 2022.** However, the situation remains critical. Even though thresholds for a famine declaration have not been met, mortality and malnutrition rates remain concerning. **Support from the international community remains pivotal to sustain relief and enable stronger integrated responses to further avert excess mortality.**

1.2. WFP Response:

With **12 offices, over 100 cooperating partners (85 percent Local NGOs) and over 1,490 food retailers** across the country, WFP's field presence and partnership network are unmatched. In 2022, WFP dramatically scaled up its life-saving response to address the high needs driven by drought. Through the second half of 2022, **WFP reached more people in Somalia than ever before**. Over the course of the year, **WFP more than doubled relief food assistance to reach 4.4 million beneficiaries monthly**. To do so, WFP registered hundreds of thousands of people who had not previously received relief, leveraged the shock responsive national safety net to rapidly expand coverage and dramatically increased access into hard-to-reach areas. **New registrants accounted for up to 60 percent of the total WFP caseload, demonstrating access to the most drought-affected areas.**

In 2023, to support the Federal Government of Somalia and food insecure populations, WFP will refine its drought response across five interlinked interventions, emphasising cash-based transfers where possible, increasing sustainable access in hard-to-reach areas, continuing a vertical expansion of the national social safety net, and integrating climate resilience programmes.

WFP Footprint



First Line Assistance

WFP delivers First Line Assistance to vulnerable populations, in line with the Integrated Response Framework for Somalia. This intervention focusses on expanding access into hard-to-reach areas and assisting new IDP arrivals. **First Line Assistance assists on a no-regrets basis extremely vulnerable individuals immediately upon arrival at IDP sites, and in drought affected hard-to-reach areas where humanitarian needs and the risk of famine remain high.**

WFP, UNICEF and WHO have developed a comprehensive access expansion plan to provide integrated emergency assistance to communities living in hard-to-reach rural locations not previously covered by relief assistance. These agencies work with humanitarian partners to support 13 hard-to-reach districts with the greatest needs. Under this initiative, WFP is providing one-off food and nutrition assistance to people in areas being reached for the first time while other agencies provide WASH and health services. Simultaneously, vulnerable households are being registered on WFP's SCOPE system to be included in regular relief assistance, which include remote cash-based transfers through mobile money. By providing food assistance to people in their home location, this programme also mitigates further displacement as communities are less likely to leave in search of food and services. Since October 2022, **WFP had reached over 290,000 new beneficiaries across 13 hard-to-reach districts.**

Intervention 1: Provide relief food assistance to drought-affected people through in-kind and cash assistance.

WFP will continue to provide urgent life-saving relief food assistance to the most vulnerable groups. This includes i) those at risk of famine and the most food insecure, prioritising IPC 4 and 5 populations; ii) IDPs, focussing on recently displaced; iii) refugees and asylum seekers, with a focus on new arrivals; and iv) the most nutritionally vulnerable, particularly moderately malnourished children under five, pregnant and breastfeeding women and marginalized groups. **Recognising substantial humanitarian needs in 2023, WFP is seeking resources to continue supporting 4.5 million of the most food insecure with monthly life-saving food relief.**

WFP will provide a mix of transfer modalities using mobile money, e-vouchers and in-kind assistance depending on market functionality, operational feasibility, and access conditions. Most of WFP's relief beneficiaries (80-90 percent) receive cash-based transfers. This allows WFP to maximize transparency, efficiency, and beneficiary dignity, and also support local markets. The cash transfer values follow recommendations from the Cash Working Group and are updated quarterly to reflect changing market prices. The in-kind transfer includes 12 kg of cereal, 1.2 kg of pulses, and 0.66 litres of vegetable oil per beneficiary per month. This accounts for 80 percent of a minimum food basket. **To meet lifesaving relief food needs in 2023, WFP urgently needs USD 925.3 million.**

Shock-Responsive Social Protection Spotlight: *Baxnaano*

WFP's life-saving work is complemented by longer-term investments to change lives – strengthening the capacity of Somalia's institutions, enabling Somalis to break the cycle of dependence on aid and become more resilient to shocks. WFP's support for the World Bank-funded, government-owned national Safety Net for Human Capital Project (also known as *Baxnaano*) is a great example within this operational nexus. *Baxnaano* is by far the largest safety net in Somalia and has transformed into a flagship programme of the Federal Government. In recognition of WFP's expansive footprint in Somalia and well-established, transparent, and reliable delivery systems, the Federal Government engaged WFP in the delivery of cash transfers to eligible households. The strategic partnership with the Government of Somalia and the World Bank has proven effective in addressing both chronic and acute food insecurity.

Baxnaano provides predictable cash transfers to 200,000 chronically food insecure households (1.2 million people) across 21 districts while the shock-response components address the acute food security needs of 300,000 households (1.8 million people). Hereby WFP delivers predictable cash transfers to clients to strengthen their resilience against shocks. In 2022, over USD 46 million worth of transfers were processed to clients through the regular safety net entitlement. All direct recipients of *Baxnaano* are women who are equipped with registered SIM cards to allow them to exercise maximum control over their benefits.

Intervention 2: Provide preventative and curative nutrition services to nutritionally vulnerable children and pregnant and breastfeeding women.

In 2022, WFP expanded its assistance to reach over half a million malnourished children and women every month with lifesaving nutritional support. **WFP now plans to provide tailored nutrition support to 5,768,475 children under five (Cu5) and pregnant and breastfeeding women (PBW) in 2023.** WFP will implement three interlinked nutrition programmes: 1) targeted supplementary feeding (TSF); 2) maternal and child health and nutrition (MCHN); and 3) blanket supplementary feeding (BSF).

TSF treats cases of moderate acute malnutrition in young children and PBW, preventing these populations sliding further into severe wasting and providing continuous monitoring and care. **Monitoring has shown strong outcomes of the Somalia malnutrition treatment programme, with a recovery rate of 96.7 percent**, exceeding SPHERE Standards (>75 percent). WFP aims to reach 1,222,161 children under 5 years and 382,659 PBW during 2023 with TSF. In addition, WFP Somalia will implement BSF and MCHN for the

prevention of acute malnutrition. MCHN ensures that women and children benefit from nutritious and safe diets, essential health and nutrition services and positive nutrition practices during the first 1,000 days of life. Only in locations where no MCHN services are available, will WFP implement blanket supplementary feeding. BSF aims to cushion vulnerable groups from a recurrent cycle of acute malnutrition by providing seasonal nutritional assistance during lean periods or following shocks. In 2023, WFP Somalia is seeking to reach 2,268,557 Cu2 and 1,864,892 PBW through these preventative interventions. **To provide comprehensive treatment and prevention nutrition services to children and PBW in 2023, WFP needs USD 253 million.**

Modality	Population	Ration	Beneficiaries	Cost (USD)
TSF	Cu5	100g RUSF/d for 4 months	1,222,161	96,651,262
	PBW	200g CSB++/d for 4 months	382,659	
BSF/MCHN	Cu2	50g RUSF/d for 6 months	2,268,557	155,143,616
	PBW	100g CSB++/d for 6 months	1,864,892	
TB/HIV patients	TB/HIV patients	200g CSB++/d for 6 months	6,000	1,269,215
Total			5,768,475²⁹	253,064,093

Cash for prevention of acute malnutrition

Beginning 2023, WFP will implement a cash-for-prevention of acute malnutrition pilot in Baidoa town and IDP camps in Banadir targeting an estimated 15,000 children under 5 and 15,000 PBW. This pilot is designed to improve access to nutritious foods and simultaneously support local drought-affected markets. The delivery modality will be cash-based transfers using mobile money and SCOPE. Transfers will be complemented by Social Behaviour Change messaging to promote optimal infant and young feeding practices and maternal nutrition.

Intervention 3: Provide livelihood support to households and communities to prevent erosion of resilience gains and create pathways for sustainable recovery.

Even as WFP expands its life-saving humanitarian support in Somalia to record levels, the organization continues to make complementary longer-term investments to change lives. WFP is committed to strengthening the capacity of Somalia's institutions and enabling Somalis to break the cycle of dependence on humanitarian aid and become more resilient against shocks. **Livelihoods, resilience, capacity strengthening and food systems interventions are planned for 385,000 drought-affected beneficiaries in 2023.** These programmes enable and protect food access and availability in times of drought and other crisis. While lifesaving relief and nutrition elements focus on IPC 3+ districts, resilience and food systems interventions support the broader population to prevent deterioration of livelihoods. **These life-changing interventions require USD 90.5 million in 2023.** Key components include:

3.1 Anticipatory Action: In April 2022, leveraging the *Baxnaano* platform to invest in households' capacities to withstand cycles of shock, WFP successfully delivered USD 3 million under drought anticipatory action, WFP's largest anticipatory payout in the Eastern Africa Region. The initiative provided early support to 117,000 people exposed to famine risk amidst an anticipated fourth failed rainy season. Following indications of increasing risk of famine in 2022 and building on the success of the first round of anticipatory transfers, a second round of investment of USD 4.8 million was provided to reach an additional 86,000 people with a one-time cash top-up for six months. The anticipatory transfers were accompanied by a public information campaign on positive coping strategies to preempt and mitigate the impacts of worsening drought. Going forward, WFP will strengthen community based early warning systems through active collaborations with authorities and communities.

3.2 Transitioning to livelihoods: Following the provision of relief assistance, WFP will transition beneficiaries to livelihood activities where appropriate, in close collaboration with FAO, UNICEF and resilience-focused consortia. These programmes provide direct food or cash transfers to support activities that rebuild livelihoods through investment in natural resources (water) management, integrated land management, ecosystem restoration and protection and investment in agricultural activities.

3.3 Support to retail networks: WFP's existing and extensive support to the retail networks allow beneficiaries to be mobile, as they can redeem their entitlements across numerous areas across Somalia. This is particularly important for pastoralists who may need to migrate in search of grazing areas. Retail support thus provides greater flexibility and strengthens local retail capacities and markets alike.

3.4 Smallholder support: WFP supports producer groups with solar-powered drip irrigation systems to cultivate fruits and vegetables in areas with poor rainfall. This helps IDPs and other vulnerable families improve their diets, diversify their livelihoods and cushion them against the impacts of drought.

3.5 Technical support to strengthen capacities of national and subnational actors: In 2023, WFP Somalia will continue operationalizing Country Capacity Strengthening (CCS) through six sector-specific outcomes (humanitarian response architecture; logistics and supply chain; social protection; school feeding; food systems; and nutrition). At the Federal level, WFP will continue building collaborative relationships with priority ministries and the Office of the Special Envoy for Drought Response. These engagements will pivot WFP's support from an implementer to an enabler of Government priorities. For example, WFP will continue collaborating with the Ministry of Labour and Social Affairs on social protection targeting and delivery platforms that provide anticipatory support to families at risk of severe food insecurity. At the Member State level, WFP will build on support provided in 2022 to Government institutions for monitoring and coordination of the drought response.

Intervention 4: Provide nutritious school meals to vulnerable children in districts severely affected by drought.

Severe food shortages and inability to cover school expenses due to the drought are severely affecting Somali families' ability to send their children to school. **An estimated 2.4 million school-aged children have been affected. Among these, 1.7 million children are already out of school while 900,000 are at risk of dropping out as more families get displaced or can no longer afford the cost of schooling.** To address these needs, **in 2022 WFP supported 187,000 schoolchildren with nutritious school meals**, helping them return to and stay in school. School feeding is an essential safety net in emergencies. In addition to improving health and nutrition of children, daily school meals are a strong incentive to enrol, attend and learn, preventing children from dropping out, averting schools from closing, and families from moving in search of relief elsewhere. **In 2023, WFP will continue providing school meals to over 174,000 students in 582 schools.** WFP also plans to expand school feeding as part of the education-in-emergencies component of the 2023 Humanitarian Response Plan (Education Cluster). **This expansion will target an additional 174,000 children living in IDP camps**, complementing existing education-in-emergency activities implemented by humanitarian partners. **To provide nutritious school meals to vulnerable children in 2023, WFP requires USD 44.5 million.**

Intervention 5: Augment the logistical, air service and telecommunications capacity of government and partners to deliver urgent system-wide humanitarian assistance.

Access to people in need remains a key constraint for humanitarian partners, especially in the southern and central regions of Somalia. The chronic logistics challenges arising from insecurity and weak infrastructure are compounded by fuel shocks and disruptions in global supply chains. WFP's common service provision in Somalia is focused on three core services to strengthen the inter-agency drought response: 1) Logistics Cluster; 2) Humanitarian Air Services and 3) Emergency Telecommunications.

Logistics Cluster: Common services provide transport by sea, road and air as well as storage to support the prepositioning and last-mile delivery of goods. The Logistics Cluster advocates, together with OCHA and relevant stakeholders, for the facilitation of customs procedures and other access constraints to enable unimpeded arrival of humanitarian supplies and the potential opening of new cross-border routes. Finally,

information management services are provided in such areas as consolidation of needs, resolving logistics bottlenecks, and mapping physical road access constraints. WFP forecasts that 250-300 mt of supplies will require transport support each month. **To ensure humanitarian partners have the requisite logistical support to reach drought-affected populations, the Logistics Cluster requires USD 2 million in 2023.**

Humanitarian Air Services: The United Nations Humanitarian Air Service (UNHAS) provides critical air services to help humanitarian and development agencies reach the most in need across Somalia, including in hard-to-reach and drought-affected areas. In 2022, UNHAS transported over **15,000** passengers and **1,000** mt of urgent cargo and relief items enabling **89** user organizations to access **29** locations. UNHAS also deployed a helicopter and an additional caravan aircraft to support the IASC scale-up and drought response. The helicopter has enabled reach to locations including Mahas where fixed-wing aircraft cannot land. UNHAS also augmented its regularly served destinations to 14 by adding three locations in South-Central and increasing flight frequency to this region. In 2023, **UNHAS requires USD 19.9 million to ensure that humanitarian and development agencies continue to reach the people most in need.**

Emergency Telecommunications: The Emergency Telecommunications Cluster (ETC) was formally activated in Somalia in September 2022. The Cluster will facilitate common information and communications technology services for United Nations agencies and partners to support the system-wide scale-up and the establishment of field-based interagency humanitarian hubs. **The ETC requires USD 5.2 million in 2023 to provide critical communications infrastructure and services to humanitarians.** These funds will allow the Cluster to provide emergency security communications services (radio), internet access and support to humanitarian organizations. Additionally, with confirmed funding **the Cluster will be able to facilitate two-way communications between communities and assistance providers and strengthen accountability to the affected population through the provision of an interagency common feedback mechanism.**

#	Common Services	2023 Drought Requirements (USD)
1	Logistics Cluster	2,006,014
2	United Nations Humanitarian Air Service	19,933,364
3	Emergency Telecommunications Cluster	5,207,679
	Total	27,147,057

1.3. WFP Somalia’s Financial Requirements

#	Intervention	2023 Drought Response Requirements (USD)
1	Relief food & cash assistance	925,301,512
2	Nutrition	253,064,093
3	Livelihoods & resilience	90,488,483
4	School meals	44,554,652
5	Logistics and common services	27,147,057
	Total	1,340,555,797



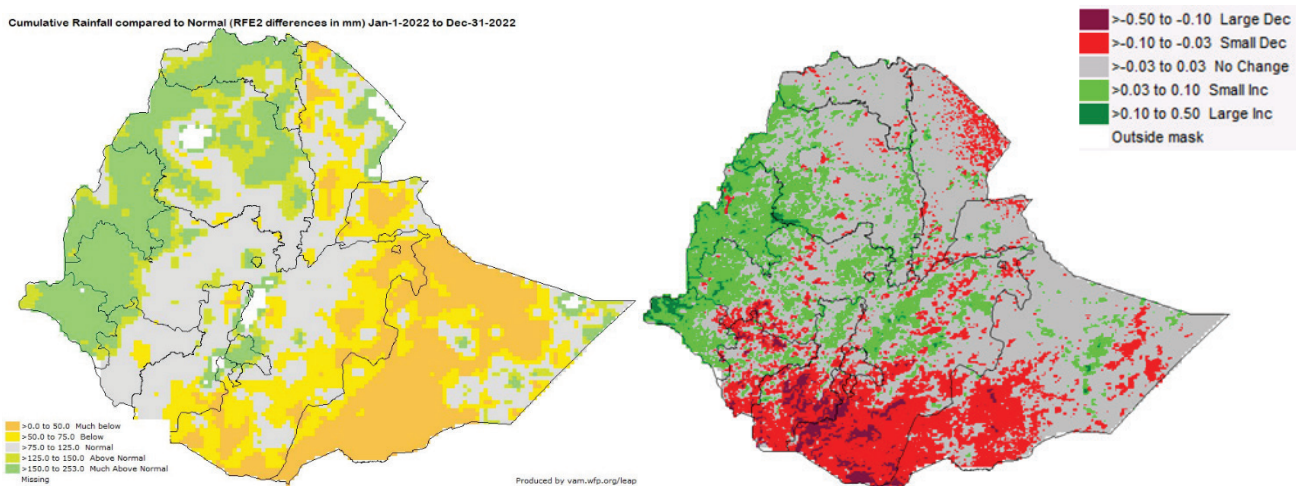
WFP/Michael Tewelde

2. Ethiopia

2.1. Drought Overview:

Following five consecutive poor rainy seasons, Ethiopia is experiencing the most severe and protracted drought in recent history. Drought is predominantly affecting the Somali, Oromia and Southern Nations, Nationalities and Peoples’ (SNNP) regions, but the crisis has impacted the lives and livelihoods of people across the country. **11.8 million people are now in need of food assistance in drought-affected areas alone, an increase of 59 percent compared to early 2022. 3.8 million women and children in these areas need support to prevent and treat malnutrition.**³⁰ With Ethiopia managing several compounding and concurrent shocks (conflict, displacement, drought and macro-economic volatility), food insecurity in drought-affected areas is expected to continue deteriorating in the short to medium-term.

Figure 4: WFP Annual Rainfall Analysis of 2022 (left) and Vegetation Analysis as of January 2023 (right)³¹



2.2. WFP's Response:

To address the significant humanitarian needs driven by the ongoing drought, WFP is providing a combination of interventions to save lives in the immediate-term and build climate resilient livelihoods and food systems in the longer-term. Resources dependent, **WFP is targeting 3.3 million beneficiaries with relief food and cash assistance alone, and is targeting an overall 7.4 million unique beneficiaries across all drought response activities.**

Intervention 1: Provide life-saving relief food and cash assistance to vulnerable drought-affected people in the Somali Region.

With the drought compounding multiple shocks, relief food requirements are urgent and substantial. Under the division of responsibility between WFP, the Federal Government, and NGOs, WFP leads the provision of relief food assistance in the Somali Region, the most drought-affected region in Ethiopia.

3.9 million people are estimated to require emergency food assistance in the Somali Region, representing 62 percent of the population. However, due to insufficient funding, WFP has only been able to support 2.4 million of those drought-affected in Somali Region in 2022, leaving over 1 million hungry people unassisted. Moreover, due to severe funding limitations, WFP was forced to reduce the cereal ration in early 2022 from 15 to 12 kg per person per round. Starting from December 2022, WFP is increasing its relief food caseload to target 2.8 million people. **To provide this critical food relief to 2.8 million people through 2023, WFP requires USD 319 million.** WFP's relief food basket, in line with national standards, provides 15 kg of cereal, 1.5 kg of pulses, and 0.45 L of vegetable oil per beneficiary every six weeks. This food basket comprises 63 percent of the daily minimum 2,100 kilocalories needed to survive.

WFP is also targeting the remaining 500,000 food insecure people with cash transfers valued at USD 17.4 per person per round through 2023 in areas where markets are functional. These cash transfers cover the same 63 percent of kilocalorie requirements as the relief food basket. To deliver these lifesaving cash transfers in 2023, WFP requires USD 110 million.

WFP 2023 Relief Assistance in the Somali Region			
Sector	Beneficiaries ³²	Transfer value / Person / Round	2023 Requirements (USD)
In-kind food	2,800,000	15 kg cereal	319,000,000
		1.5 kg pulses	
		0.45 L vegetable oil	
Cash-based transfers	500,000	USD 17.4	110,000,000
Total	3,300,000		429,000,000



Ensuring the Centrality of Protection in all WFP's Programmes

As part of WFP's people-centred approach, 'Do No Harm' and leaving no one behind, WFP is tailoring its emergency and resilience programmes to support marginalized groups and ensure any protection risks are addressed safely and confidentially. For example, in Kenya, at food distribution sites, WFP is ensuring groups in need of special assistance, such as elderly people, people living with disabilities and pregnant women either have special queues or are served first. In Somalia, WFP has embedded protection criteria within our targeting approach, ensuring we assist the most marginalized communities, while in Ethiopia, protection indicators are embedded into our monitoring, ensuring close follow-up.

Community Feedback Mechanisms (CFM) is a way for affected populations to ask questions, voice complaints and provide feedback as well as receive information relevant to WFP's operations. As part of CFM, in all drought-affected countries, WFP is working with Protection Clusters/Working Groups to strengthen existing referral pathways and mapping of Protection providers. Hereby, WFP will support anyone who has been exposed to harm by referring them so they can receive the right support by from the right agency. In addition, WFP is raising awareness across drought-affected areas on the organization's zero tolerance towards sexual exploitation and abuse, including information on how to contact WFP.

Intervention 2: Nutritional support for vulnerable children and pregnant and breastfeeding women in drought-affected areas.

Malnutrition in drought-affected areas of Ethiopia drastically deteriorated in 2022. Recent nutrition assessments in Somali and Oromia regions show high levels of wasting among children under five (Cu5) and pregnant and breastfeeding women (PBW) in particular. A Rapid Nutrition Assessment conducted in the Borena Zone of Oromia with support from WFP found 50 percent of PBW and 15 percent of Cu5 of five to be wasted – exceeding the emergency threshold of 15 percent. Similar trends were recorded in the Somali Region in a Food Security and Nutrition Monitoring Survey supported by WFP, where 40 percent of PBW and 17 percent of Cu5 were found to be acutely malnourished.³³

To address these dire nutritional needs, WFP supports children under five and PBW who are identified as malnourished with Targeted Supplementary Feeding (TSF), treating Moderate Acute Malnutrition and providing continuous monitoring and care. **In 2023, WFP aims to treat moderate acute malnutrition in over 3.4 million children and PBW across the Somali, Oromia and SNNP regions. To do this, WFP requires USD 217 million.**

In addition to treatment, WFP is seeking to prevent vulnerable children and PBW from sliding into malnutrition in the first place. To do so, WFP aims to provide a fresh food voucher to the most nutritionally vulnerable households already receiving WFP's relief food assistance. This fresh food voucher top-up will be provided to 11,800 of the most vulnerable households (59,000 individuals) who have children under five and/or a PBW. This top-up aims to address the nutritional limitations of the relief food basket and improve access to healthy diets. It is important to note that the dietary requirements of children and PBW are higher than average, so their daily nutrient gap with the standard food basket is even larger. These cash-based transfers, of USD 39 per household per month, will improve dietary quality and diversity, improving the nutritional status and preventing malnutrition. The cash-based transfers will be provided in 12 districts of Somali Region where the markets are functional and have a robust supply of nutrient-dense fresh foods. An evidence-based and context-specific social behavioural change communication strategy will complement the cash-based transfers to convey messages on good nutrition practices and maximise the nutrition outcomes of the transfers. **To provide 12 rounds of monthly cash top-ups to 11,800 vulnerable households and prevent malnutrition, WFP requires USD 5.5 million in 2023.**

Modality	Population	Beneficiaries	Ration	Cost (USD)
TSF	Cu5	2,200,000	100g RUSF/d for 3 months	217,000,000
	PBW	1,200,000	250g CSB++/d for 6 months	
Cash top-up	Relief HHs with Cu5 and/or PBW	59,000 (11,800 HH)	USD 39 / HH / month / 12 months	5,500,000
Total		3,459,500		222,500,000

Intervention 3: Safeguard the livelihoods and productive assets of vulnerable drought-affected households.

Curbing the deterioration of food and nutrition security in drought-affected areas is crucially linked with protecting livelihoods and peoples’ means to sustain themselves. Thus, in addition to immediate food and nutrition relief, WFP provides an integrated package of services to drought-affected communities. This includes the following interventions:

Intervention 3.1: Anticipatory Action: WFP works to anticipate climate hazards before they turn into disasters by using early warning systems, which trigger pre-positioned financing for WFP to take preventative actions. Through these anticipatory actions, WFP has strengthened the capacity of communities in the Somali Region to prepare for and manage climate shocks. In 2022, WFP implemented three integrated anticipatory actions to support pastoralist and agro-pastoralist households: i) Early-warning messages provided to 137,151 beneficiaries ahead of the failed rains including crucial preparedness information; ii) Anticipatory multi-purpose cash to 25,200 beneficiaries (transferring total of USD 968,754); and iii) Supported rangeland enclosure and fodder production of 14,875 beneficiaries to build climate resilience. **WFP anticipates requiring USD 25 million to provide such preventative assistance to an additional 430,743 pastoralists and agro-pastoralists in 2023.**

Intervention 3.2: Microinsurance for pastoralists: In the Somali Region, WFP is insuring smallholder farmers’ livestock against the impacts of extreme drought through its Satellite Index Insurance for Pastoralists in Ethiopia (SIPE) programme. Over 38,500 participants currently receive access to the insurance while contributing their labor to activities that decrease the risks of climatic hazards affecting their communities, such as rangeland management, livestock fodder production, and projects that conserve soil and water. More than 13,500 people involved in the programme received a payout to help them cope with livestock losses caused by the drought’s devastating impacts during the *gu* rain season between March and May 2022. In total, USD 275,000 (14.4 million ETB) was distributed during the season. **WFP is seeking an additional USD 5.5 million to extend microinsurance services to a further 150,000 at-risk pastoralists through 2023.**

Intervention 3.3: Protecting and improving agro-pastoralists’ livelihoods: WFP and partners are supporting the livelihoods and food security of over 63,000 smallholder beneficiaries, including pastoralists, agro-pastoralists, and refugees, living in drought-affected areas. WFP provides support both on and off the farm by constructing irrigation canals, conducting trainings on smart agricultural practices, providing agricultural inputs like seeds and fertilizer, and improving vulnerable population’s access to markets where they can sell their produce. WFP also supports beneficiaries to save money in Village Saving and Loan Associations (VSLA), which helps vulnerable populations to invest more in their production. WFP supports 6,800 agro-pastoralists and refugees in the Somali Region under 123 active VSLAs. These associations also serve as a platform to provide financial literacy training and connect beneficiaries to financial services, while building entrepreneurial skills. **Recognizing the rapidly increasing drought requirements, WFP is urgently seeking USD 25 million to protect and strengthen the resilience of 65,000 additional agro-pastoralists in 2023.**

Intervention 4: Provide nutritious school meals to vulnerable children in areas severely affected by drought.

Hunger affects children’s concentration and ability to learn. Moreover, in times of drought, many children are unable to go to school because their families need them to help bring in income or perform domestic duties. This educational impact is already evident in Ethiopia, where the drought has affected the schooling of more than 1.4 million students due to school closures and lack of school feeding programs.³⁴ Better health and nutrition allows children to learn and perform better, broadening their educational opportunities, improving social capital and dissuading parents from early marriage and child labor. For families in Ethiopia, the value of school meals is equivalent to approximately 10 percent of household income, and when several children are enrolled in school, the provision of school meals can translate into substantial savings. As a result, school meals function as a substantive social safety net.

WFP is already providing school feeding to over 133,000 children in the Oromia and SNNP regions. However, due to lack of resources, WFP has been unable to expand school feeding to cover the needs in these two regions and extend school feeding to the Somali Region. **WFP is seeking USD 10.6 million to provide nutritious school meals to 100,000 school children in the most drought-affected areas of the Somali Region, 50,000 in Oromia and a further 50,000 in SNNPR in 2023.**

Intervention 5: Augment the logistics and air services capacity of Government and partners to deliver urgent humanitarian assistance in drought-affected areas of Ethiopia.

The Logistics Cluster (led by WFP and the Ethiopian Disaster Risk Management Commission) serves as a fundamental link between the logistics-related efforts of all humanitarian partners responding to the drought across Ethiopia. Through coordination, the Cluster streamlines logistics operations, improves efficiency and reduces duplication of efforts. In response to the drought, the Logistics Cluster foresees an expansion of its activities in the drought affected areas, through the creation of hubs, additional storage, and transport capacity, as well as enhanced information management and coordination services as required. The Cluster is also able to provide warehouse space and support partners to pre-position lifesaving supplies in areas with high needs or that may be subject to access constraints. **If the Logistics Cluster were to expand its operations to support partners involved in the drought response, it would require USD 6.5 million through 2023.**

The WFP-led Humanitarian Air Services (UNHAS) provides critical air services to help humanitarians reach the most in need, including to the drought-affected Somali Region. In 2022, UNHAS transported over **2,600 passengers** and **10 mt of humanitarian cargo** to drought-affected areas through the airports in Dolo Ado and Melkadida in the Somali Region. **In 2023, UNHAS requires USD 4.6 million to ensure humanitarians and their lifesaving commodities can reach the drought-affected people who need them most.**

#	Common Services	2023 Drought Requirements (USD)
1	Logistics Cluster	6.5 million
2	United Nations Humanitarian Air Service	4.6 million
	Total	11.1 million

2.3. WFP Ethiopia’s Financial Requirements

#	Intervention	2023 Drought Response Requirements (USD)
1	Relief food & cash assistance	429,000,000
2	Nutrition	222,500,000
3	Livelihoods & resilience	55,600,000
4	School meals	10,600,000
5	Logistics and common services	11,100,000
	Total	728,800,000



3. Kenya

3.1. Drought Overview:

The cumulative impact of five consecutive poor rainy seasons has resulted in emergency food insecurity across much of the Arid and Semi-Arid Lands (ASAL) region of Kenya. As of December 2022, nearly **4.4 million Kenyans are acutely food insecure (IPC Phases 3+)**.³⁵ This includes a record high 1.2 million people in Emergency (IPC Phase 4). Garissa, Isiolo, Mandera, Marsabit, Turkana, Wajir, Samburu and parts of Baringo and Tana River are the most severely affected. **2.5 million livestock deaths have already been recorded with the Government of Kenya estimating the economic cost of livestock loss alone at over USD 1.5 billion.**³⁶ Nutrition indicators have also significantly deteriorated. **885,000 children under five and 116,000 pregnant and breastfeeding women are acutely malnourished and need malnutrition treatment.**

3.2. WFP Response:

Immediate action is required by national and county governments and humanitarian actors to prevent a widespread decline in food security, lasting health impacts from malnutrition and potential outbreaks of resource-related conflict. To address these needs, **WFP is implementing a drought response dubbed 'Lisha Jamii' in 12 of the most severely affected ASAL counties with populations in IPC Phase 4**, namely: Baringo, Garissa, Isiolo, Kilifi, Kitui, Kwale, Mandera, Marsabit, Samburu, Tana River, Turkana, and Wajir. WFP's drought response covers five integrated interventions outlined below.

Intervention 1: Provide relief food & cash assistance to vulnerable drought-affected families.

The overall food security situation in the ASAL continues to deteriorate. To address these urgent needs, **WFP is seeking USD 153.3 million to provide emergency food assistance to 960,000 people facing IPC 4 emergency food insecurity through December 2023.** The cash transfer value is currently based on 50 percent of the Minimum Food Basket (MFB), equal to KSH 6,500 per family per month (USD 52) as agreed at the National Cash Working Group. The in-kind food assistance consists of 75 percent of the MFB. The cash transfer value will be reviewed by February 2023 at the National Cash Working Group and will be aligned with the in-kind transfer as dictated by IPC level i.e. 50 percent and 75 percent of the MFB for IPC 3 and 4 respectively. **In 2022, WFP already reached 535,770 drought-affected people with life-saving food assistance in the 12 counties.** Of these, the vast majority received cash assistance while 33,102 residents of Illeret in Marsabit County received in-kind food assistance. This was informed by the local market functionality index that indicated that in-kind assistance would be most effective.

Intervention 2: Prevention and treatment of moderate acute malnutrition in young children and pregnant and breastfeeding women in drought-affected areas of Kenya.

The worsening drought continues to negatively affect the nutritional status of people living in affected areas. An extensive screening exercise conducted in Illeret ward of North Horr sub-county indicated Global Acute Malnutrition levels of 53.3 percent and Severe Acute Malnutrition of 18 percent, well above emergency thresholds. **To address these needs, WFP has already expanded its malnutrition treatment programme from 8 to 15 counties.** Nutrition treatment is provided through targeted supplementary feeding (TSF) and complemented with social, and behaviour change messaging. This works to simultaneously treat malnutrition and improve knowledge and practices for achieving dietary diversity. In 2022, WFP provided malnutrition treatment to 232,407 drought-affected beneficiaries (126,220 children and 90,549 PBW). WFP has also supported efforts to prevent malnutrition amongst 13,493 children and 2,145 PBW. In 2023, **WFP will treat MAM of 365,000 children and 170,000 PBW in the most drought-affected counties, requiring USD 51.6 million.** Should resources be made available, WFP will also support efforts to prevent malnutrition among 550,000 children and 150,000 PBW through blanket supplementary feeding. **In 2023, malnutrition prevention requires USD 42.9 million.**

Intervention 3: Drought mitigation and adaptation by protecting livelihoods and strengthening local climate adaptation.

WFP collaborates with county governments to support communities in the ASALs to build climate-resilient livelihoods and mitigate the effects of drought and other climate shocks. By facilitating access to an integrated package of services, WFP strengthens the capacity of smallholder farmers and pastoralists to respond to climate change and improve access to healthy and affordable diets. This integrated support has also led to a reduction of intercommunal conflict among some pastoral communities.

3.1 : Food and cash transfers to protect livelihoods: WFP provides seasonal cash and food transfers to some 370,000 people in the nine most drought affected counties to cover critical food gaps and safeguard investments made towards longer-term resilience. The drought triggered the provision of additional transfers to secure longer-term investments towards resilience thereby mitigating the effects of the drought on agricultural productivity and livestock conditions.

3.2 : Build climate-resilient livelihoods: WFP works with local governments to support drought-prone communities to manage, reduce and adapt to climate-related risks. Investments include climate-resilient infrastructure, the introduction of drought-tolerant and nutrient-dense crops, livelihoods diversification focussing on women and youth, promotion of conservation agriculture, and risk management through microinsurance and other financial inclusion schemes such as community-based saving and loan associations.

Expanding this integrated approach to reach more communities in the most drought affected counties, including further investments into anticipatory actions will be critical. **WFP requires USD 90 million to extend these drought mitigation and adaptation activities through 2023.**

Intervention 4: Government, humanitarian and development partners benefit from effective and cost-efficient air transport to drought-affected areas of Kenya.

Access to people in need is a challenge for humanitarian partners in the ASAL counties most affected by drought. The chronic logistics challenges arising from access and infrastructure are compounded by fuel shocks and disruptions in global supply chains. Thus, there is a need to sustain humanitarian air services to ensure system-wide capacity. UNHAS provides critical air services to help humanitarian and development agencies reach the most in need across Kenya, including hard-to-reach and drought-affected areas. In 2022, UNHAS transported around **8,000 passengers** and **40 mt** of urgent cargo and relief items in Kenya, enabling **55 organizations** to access **13 locations**. **In 2023, UNHAS requires USD 500,000 from donors to sustain crucial air operations to drought-affected areas in Kenya.** Additional resources to run the air operations will be generated from ticket sales.

3.3. WFP Kenya’s Financial Requirements

Intervention		2023 Drought Response Requirements (USD)
1	Relief food & cash assistance	153,294,236
2	Nutrition	94,542,900
3	Livelihoods & resilience	90,529,786
4	School meals	-
5	Logistics and common services (UNHAS)	500,000
Total		338,866,922

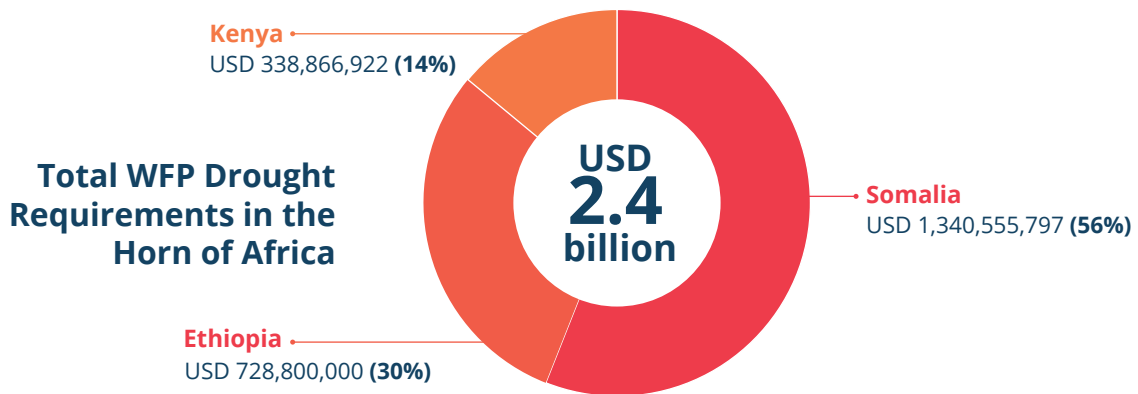


SUMMARY OF FINANCIAL REQUIREMENTS

WFP appreciates the funding received so far to help prevent hunger, malnutrition and famine in the Horn of Africa. This support has enabled WFP to expand a targeted response to reach those most affected by this devastating drought. But the massive humanitarian needs threaten to outstrip resources. It is imperative that the world comes together to support those on the frontlines of the global climate crisis, before it is too late.

Immediate and flexible funding is needed to deliver assistance to drought-affected people and avert a major humanitarian crisis. **WFP urgently requires USD 2.4 billion in 2023 to meet the critical needs of 8.8 million drought-affected people across the region.**

WFP Regional Drought Requirements by Country and Sector for 2023				
Sector	Ethiopia	Kenya	Somalia	Total
Relief food & cash assistance	429,000,000	153,294,236	925,301,512	1,507,595,748
Nutrition	222,500,000	94,542,900	253,064,093	570,106,993
Livelihoods & resilience	55,600,000	90,529,786	90,488,483	236,618,269
School meals	10,600,000	-	44,554,652	55,154,652
Logistics and common services	11,100,000	500,000	27,147,057	38,747,057
Total	728,800,000	338,866,922	1,340,555,797	2,408,222,719



DROUGHT RESPONSE PLANS FROM UN PARTNER AGENCIES

Only by collaborating with governments, UN agencies, NGOs, and civil society can the impacts of the drought be sustainably addressed. This plan presents the aggregation of WFP's financial requirements to respond to the Horn of Africa drought crisis and has been developed to provide donors with a single reference for these requirements. WFP is fully committed to a closely coordinated and prioritized inter-agency response to this crisis. To this end, with respect to immediate life-saving requirements, this plan is closely aligned with the respective country-level consolidated humanitarian appeals for joint strategic planning and resource mobilization, namely the: Ethiopia Humanitarian Response Plan, Kenya Flash Appeal, and Somalia Humanitarian Response Plan. WFP works closely with operational agencies in the UN to ensure that our programmes are developed, coordinated, and delivered in ways that harness the cumulative effect of our work, while ensuring that our systems strengthening and resilience programmes are fully aligned with government plans to ensure sustainability.

The United Nations Food and Agriculture Organization (FAO)

The resilience of small scale-farmers and herders in their productive capacities, as well as the resilience of food systems, are important contributing factors to nutrition, especially for children under 5 years old. Because of that, intertwined programming between UNICEF, FAO, and WFP will be paramount to achieving our collective nutrition outcomes. In 2022, FAO launched a Drought Response Plan aimed at saving the livelihoods of rural communities in the worst affected areas of Ethiopia, Kenya, Somalia, and to a lesser extent Djibouti: <https://www.fao.org/documents/card/en/c/cc0638en/>. FAO, WFP, and UNICEF, in their cluster-lead functions, have also promoted inter-cluster collaboration and geographic programming convergences to achieve the cumulative effects of the agencies' responses. Given that the drought will likely continue into 2023 and recovery will be delayed, FAO is in the process of launching a new response plan in late early 2023 as an advocacy document that supports Ethiopia's and Somalia's Humanitarian Response Plans and Kenya's Flash Appeal. FAO's programming in the eastern Africa region goes beyond the short-term drought response and is fundamentally based on resilience-building and climate adaptation priorities as described under the FAO Resilience Programme of Work 2022-2026.

The United Nations Refugee Agency (UNHCR)

The devastating drought has forced thousands of people to flee their homes in search of humanitarian assistance. Inside Somalia, more than 1.1 million people have been displaced by drought in 2022 alone. Over 16,000 Somalis have also crossed into Dollo Ado, in Ethiopia from the end of 2021 to June 2022 while an estimated 80,000 Somali refugees have also arrived in Kenya, fleeing a complex mix of conflict and drought. UNHCR teams are working with humanitarian partners to provide life-saving assistance and protection to these vulnerable families. UNHCR released a Regional Drought Appeal in 2022: <https://data.unhcr.org/en/documents/details/93891>. This appeal is in the process of being updated and will be available in early 2023.

The United Nations Children's Fund (UNICEF)

UNICEF's Horn of Africa Drought Response in 2023 is targeting 16.6 million people at high risk, including 12.2 million children with life-saving interventions including Nutrition, Health and WASH in Ethiopia, Somalia and Kenya. In 2022, UNICEF's response reached close to 3 million people with both urgent life-saving and climate-resilient interventions. Due to the likelihood of a sixth failed rainy season, UNICEF recognizes the necessity of providing life-saving support today, while increasing the resilience of drought-prone areas in the future, especially through climate-sensitive water infrastructure and systems strengthening. <https://www.unicef.org/press-releases/more-twenty-million-children-suffering-horn-africa-drought-intensifies-unicef>.

ACRONYMS AND INITIALISMS

ASAL	Arid and Semi-Arid Lands of Kenya
BSF	Blanket Supplementary Feeding
COVID-19	Coronavirus Disease 2019
ETC	Emergency Telecommunications Cluster
FAO	Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations
FEWS NET	Famine Early Warning Systems Network
FRC	Famine Review Committee
FSNAU	Food Security and Nutrition Analysis Unit - Somalia
GAM	Global Acute Malnutrition
HRP	Humanitarian Response Plan
IDP	Internally Displaced People
IOM	International Organization for Migration
IPC	Integrated Food Security Phase Classification
mt	Metric Tonnes
MAM	Moderate Acute Malnutrition
MFB	Minimum Food Basket
MCHN	Maternal and Child Health and Nutrition
NDVI	Normalised Difference Vegetation Index
NGO	Non-Governmental Organization
OCHA	United Nations Office for the Coordination of Humanitarian Affairs
PBW	Pregnant and Breastfeeding Women
RUSF	Ready to Use Supplementary Food
SIPE	Satellite Index Insurance for Pastoralists in Ethiopia
SAM	Severe Acute Malnutrition
SNF	Specialized Nutritious Foods
SNNPR	Southern Nations, Nationalities, and Peoples' Region
TSF	Targeted Supplementary Feeding
UNHAS	United Nations Humanitarian Air Service
UNICEF	United National Children's Fund
WFP	United Nations World Food Programme
WHO	World Health Organization

ENDNOTES

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- 32 The 2023 projection of food insecurity is based on the Household Economy Analysis and IDP numbers from the Displacement Tracking Matrix. 3.3 million relief caseload represents the annual average as food insecurity estimates differ based on the season (lean season, harvest, etc).
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