

30 September 2025

1. Crisis overviewⁱ

4.3 / 5	6 million	4.6 million	\$1.4 billion	21.2%
Inform severity index	People in need of humanitarian aid (HNRP 2025)	People targeted in the response plan (HNRP 2025)	Required to reach the target (HNRP 2025)	Of the required funding secured (HNRP 2025)
103 MSEK	-	37.2 MSEK	140.2 MSEK	
Initial allocation	Additional allocation	Flexible funding	Total Sida funding 2025	

Somalia remains one of the most severe and protracted humanitarian crises in the world. Drought, widespread insecurity, the internal conflict with Al-Shabaab (AS), flooding and extreme poverty has resulted in mass displacement, emergency levels of food insecurity and alarming rates of malnutrition. Violence against civilians is common, including sexual and gender-based violence (GBV). Somalia ranks second in the Inform Risk Index, meaning that it is extremely vulnerable and any additional shock would have a severe impact on the needs of the population. After the extreme drought at the end of 2022 and early 2023, which increased food insecurity to such levels that the risk of starvation was looming, Somalia struggled with massive floodings during the *El Niño* in the second half of 2023. 2024 has been somewhat less intense, but floodings were also witnessed during the *Gu* season (March-June) in the first half of 2024. People are still struggling to recover from the combination of drought and flooding and the absence of rains during *La Niña* in the northern part of the country, the limited impact of rains in other parts of the country, and increase of insecurity undermine the improvement of the humanitarian situation.

Security remains one of the key concerns in Somalia, also affecting access to people in need of humanitarian assistance. The withdrawal of the African Union's Mission African Transition Mission in Somalia (ATMIS) was scheduled to be completed by the end of 2024. However, in November 2024, the UN Security Council decided to prolong the UN mandate, under a new name – UN Transitional Assistance Mission in Somalia (UNTMIS). UNTMIS is responsible for the two-year phased transfer of UNSOM's functions to the United Nations Country Team by October 2026. It is still unclear what this transition will entail in regards to potential security gaps for the Somali people, the UN and partners, as well as the risk of increased violence in different parts of the country.

2. Humanitarian needs & affected population

In the Humanitarian Needs and Response Plan (HNRP) for 2025, 6 million people are identified as in need of humanitarian assistance. Of these, 4.6 million are targeted in the HNRP with a funding requirement of \$1.4 billion. However, given the funding reductions confirmed at the beginning of the year the HNRP underwent a hyper-prioritisation exercise leading sharp decreases on the amount of people targeted and a more realistic funding target. As such the Re-prioritised HNRP established the people targeted to 1.3 million out of 5.98 million people in need and the funding requirement to \$367 million instead of \$1.4 billion.

In the latest Integrated Food Security Phase Classification (IPC) review, released in September 2025, it is estimated that 3.4 million people are currently experience crisis levels of food insecurity (IPC Phase 3 or higher). This figure is projected to increase to 4.4 million from October-December, out of whom almost one million experience emergency levels (IPC Phase 4). Currently, it is estimated that 1.8 million children are facing acute malnutrition, including over 420,000 who are assessed to be severely malnourished. Southern Somalia accounts for approximately 65 percent of these cases. Compared to the same period last year, this represents a 12 percent increase in Global Acute Malnutrition and a 5 percent increase in Severe Acute Malnutrition. Increased prevalence of communicable diseases, including cholera and measles, low coverage of essential health and nutrition services, lack of safe and potable water and sanitation facilities, along with limited food access, directly contributes to rising levels of acute malnutrition.

Prolonged drought and continuous insecurity have led to massive internal displacements, with 3.9 million people currently displaced in Somalia, including 323,000 displacements recorded from February to September 2025 alone. The funding constraints are leading to a large part of the displaced populations' needs not being met. In addition, the majority of Internally Displaced Persons (IDPs) continue to reside in urban areas, and most of the IDPs from previous crises have still not returned to their communities. It is likely that any new crises will have similar outcomes. Women, children and minority groups in IDP camps remain particularly at-risk of malnutrition, disease outbreaks, exploitation and abuse.

Women and children make up over 80 per cent of the displaced population and are often forced to trek long distances to access water and shelter, making them more vulnerable to GBV. Boys, on the other hand, are more at-risk to be recruited into armed groups. In Somalia's clan-based society, minorities often face challenges accessing assistance, especially in IDP settings where local leaders try to manipulate the response and enforce control over delivery.

In 2025, an estimated 2.7 million women and girls are at risk of GBV, while more than 70 percent of rural areas lack the necessary services to prevent and respond to such violence.

Large and increasing parts of the country are under control of AS, where access is particularly challenging. Gaining a clear understanding of humanitarian needs in these areas is challenging, with few humanitarian actors able to ensure continued and unimpeded access to vulnerable

populations in parts of these areas. Security and access challenges make operations very expensive, and dangerous for humanitarian workers. Most of these areas are assessed as hard-to-reach, both considering the limited humanitarian space and ongoing conflict between AS, clan militias and the federal government. Despite these access challenges, information received from IDPs displaced from these AS-controlled regions provide a grim picture of the needs and protection concerns. Looking ahead, the security situation is expected to deteriorate further as tensions are likely to rise in the lead-up to the 2026 elections.

Drought, followed by extensive flooding, has had devastating consequences on livelihoods for farmers and herders, a sector that provides employment for a majority of Somalia's population. This in combination with low domestic capacities to cope with any shock and high food prices leaves the whole country at risk of prolonged food insecurity. Sustained levels of humanitarian assistance are therefore required to avoid a further deterioration in food insecurity and malnutrition.

3. The humanitarian response

Many lessons were learnt during the System Wide Scale Up in 2022/2023 that also included the Secretary General's report on Post Distribution Aid Diversion (PDAD). An emphasis on implementing PDAD recommendations have been in focus for the Humanitarian Country Team (HCT), including efforts such as moving to vulnerability based targeting and improving monitoring procedures. Community feedback mechanisms (CFM) were also identified in the PDAD as a weakness in the humanitarian response. As mentioned above, Somalia is a challenging context with high access constraints which, coupled with other weaknesses identified in the PDAD report, suggests that reporting of irregularities is inadequate. Thus, continued focus on strengthening CFM should be a priority for the wider humanitarian and development community moving forward.

Other lessons learnt showed the need for continued focus on the Integrated Response Framework with its concept of first line and second line responses in displacement and hard-to-reach areas, and the relevance of evidence-based geographical prioritisation. These efforts have been in focus for the HCT and Humanitarian Donor Group (HDG) during 2024 and will continue to be in 2025.

The coordination structure in Somalia is undergoing a restructuring exercise with focus on streamlining the system and creating opportunities for an efficient and qualitative response. The HNRP for 2025 included a stronger focus on the relevance and capacity of Area Based Coordination (ABC), an operational coordination platform at local level, as well as stronger normative capacities in the clusters at national level. The global freeze and scale-back of US humanitarian funding announced in January 2025 is having major consequences on aid operations, and the HCT has adapted the response in light of the new funding landscape by re-prioritising the number of people in need targeted, the funding requirements and the geographical prioritisation of the response. This processes has been led by the Resident

Coordinator/Humanitarian Coordinator (RC/HC) and has included consultative meetings with various stakeholders. The main aspects of the re-prioritisation process in Somalia are clear focus on ten priority districts, and focus on four life-saving clusters (WASH, health, food security, and nutrition) as well as specialised protection services.

The capacity of national and federal government institutions to support crisis-affected people remain low across Somalia. Many parts of national structures are dependent on international funding. The decentralised federal system of governance, and considering that large parts of the country is controlled by AS, also hampers the government's ability to reach all parts of the country even if adequate resources and capacity would be available.

During 2025, the EU and the United Kingdom contribute about 42 per cent of total funding, while Sweden ranks as the eighth largest humanitarian donor country. Food security is the most funded sector receiving about 20 per cent of funding, Nutrition, Protection, and GVB together account only for ten per cent of the funding.

4. Sida's humanitarian allocation

A continued decrease in humanitarian funding for Somalia is anticipated, and also showcased in Sida's initial allocation for 2025. Thus the already begun process of streamlining partnerships, focusing on urgent life-saving assistance, and partners that have the capacity to deliver multi-sectoral response in large parts of the country both to IDPs, newly displaced, and hard-to-reach populations before they displace, remains relevant for 2025. As presented in the table below, all partners, except for FSNAU, will provide multi-sectoral response. However, some focus can be seen on sectors such as WASH, nutrition and protection when considering the specific capacities of selected partners.

INITIAL ALLOCATION (SEK)		
PARTNER	SECTOR	INITIAL ALLOCATION
Action Against Hunger	Multisector	20,000,000 ¹
Danish Refugee Council	Multisector	30,000,000
FAO/FSNAU	Food security	3,000,000
ICRC	Multisector	15,000,000
Somalia Humanitarian Fund	Multisector	20,000,000
UNICEF	Multisector	15,000,000
TOTAL		103,000,000

¹ Of which SEK 10 million already committed in 2024.

FLEXIBLE FUNDING & ADDITIONAL ALLOCATIONS (SEK)		
PARTNER	FLEXIBLE FUNDING ²	ADDITIONAL ALLOCATION
Danish Refugee Council	1,738,750	-
Islamic Relief	4,755,000	-
MSB	22.575.000	-
OCHA	5,600,000	-
Oxfam	2,500,000	-
TOTAL	37.168.750	-

ⁱ The 2025 initial allocation of humanitarian funding is based on Sida's humanitarian allocation analysis methodology. The analysis reflects the current humanitarian situation across crises and is being updated continuously with the latest available data. The information in the HCA is based on reports, data, and information from partner organisations and other entities, as well as observations from field visits and dialogue with partners.

² Flexible funding includes a mix of allocations such as Rapid Response Mechanism and other flexible funding mechanisms.