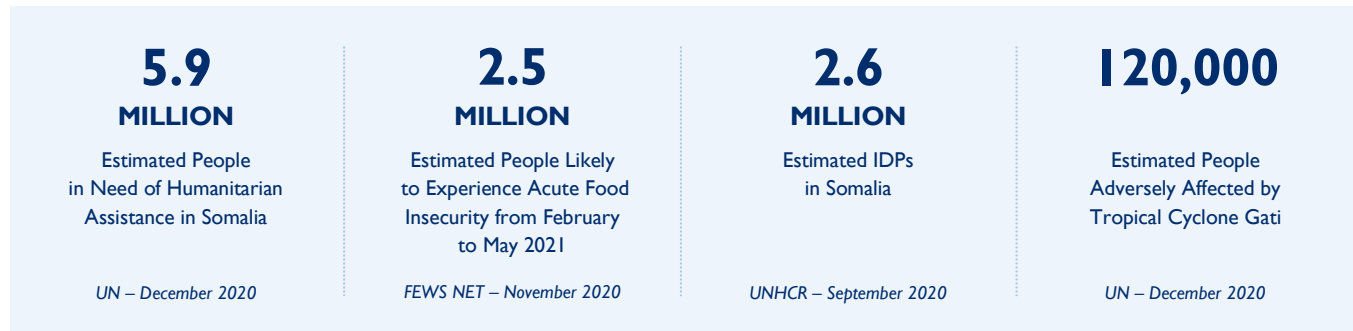


# Somalia – Complex Emergency

JANUARY 8, 2021

## SITUATION AT A GLANCE



- Tropical Cyclone Gati made landfall in northeastern Somalia’s Bari Region in late November, resulting in nine deaths and adversely affecting approximately 120,000 people, according to the UN.
- Populations in Bari are projected by FEWS NET to face increased levels of acute food insecurity from February to May due to heavy flooding and Somalia’s desert locust infestation.
- USAID/BHA partners responded to humanitarian needs resulting from *deyr* seasonal flooding, which had affected nearly 73,000 people as of November.



<b>TOTAL U.S. GOVERNMENT HUMANITARIAN FUNDING</b> For the Somalia Response in FY 2020 and FY 2021	USAID/BHA <sup>1</sup>	\$468,866,714
	State/PRM <sup>2</sup>	\$57,442,000
<b>Total</b>		<b>\$526,308,714<sup>3</sup></b>

*For complete funding breakdown with partners, see detailed chart on page 5*

<sup>1</sup> Total USAID Bureau for Humanitarian Assistance (USAID/BHA) funding includes non-food humanitarian assistance from the former Office of U.S. Foreign Disaster Assistance and emergency food assistance from the former Office of Food for Peace. For additional information regarding the desert locust response in Somalia, please refer to the USAID/BHA East Africa Desert Locust Crisis Fact Sheet.

<sup>2</sup> U.S. Department of State Bureau of Population, Refugees, and Migration (State/PRM)

<sup>3</sup> This total includes approximately \$23,842,000 in supplemental funding through USAID/BHA and State/PRM for COVID-19 preparedness and response activities.

## KEY DEVELOPMENTS

### Tropical Cyclone Gati Affects Approximately 120,000 People in Somalia

On November 22, Tropical Cyclone Gati made landfall in Bari in the semi-autonomous region of Puntland, resulting in the deaths of nine individuals and affecting approximately 120,000 people as of mid-December, according to the UN. The storm—the strongest to strike Somalia on record—reached maximum sustained wind speeds of more than 100 miles per hour and induced single-day rainfall totals that surpassed annual averages in some districts. Among affected areas, Bari’s Iskushuban District experienced storm-related flooding and damage impacting approximately 60,000 people, while flash flooding in Bari’s Bossaso District affected an estimated 40,000 people, approximately 90 percent of whom were internally displaced persons (IDPs) or refugees residing in flood-prone areas.

While the storm displaced more than 42,000 people, nearly all had returned to their respective areas of origin by November 30, according to a rapid interagency assessment conducted by Puntland authorities and the Puntland Inter-Cluster Coordination Group; however, many returned households were residing in damaged houses or shelters. Tropical Cyclone Gati also resulted in significant damage to livelihood assets—destroying approximately 7,500 heads of livestock and 120 fishing boats in Bari—and water, sanitation, and hygiene (WASH) infrastructure in affected areas, limiting access to safe drinking water and hampering efforts to contain the spread of infectious diseases, including coronavirus disease (COVID-19). Additionally, storm-related infrastructure damage limited road access to some areas of Bari, impeding the delivery of food and other commodities to local markets and, consequently, increasing staple food prices.

Priority humanitarian needs resulting from Tropical Cyclone Gati include emergency food assistance; health care; livelihoods support, including livestock restocking and fishing equipment repair; nutrition services; protection; shelter and settlements support; and WASH assistance, according to the rapid interagency assessment. As of December 13, relief actors—including USAID/BHA and State/PRM partners—had provided humanitarian assistance to more than 78,000 cyclone-affected people in Somalia.

### FEWS NET Projects Acute Food Insecurity Will Worsen Across Somalia

Tropical Cyclone Gati, October-to-December *deyr* rains and related flooding, and desert locust infestations have exacerbated food insecurity in Somalia, likely resulting in Emergency levels of acute food insecurity in parts of Bari and Crisis—IPC 3—levels of acute food insecurity elsewhere in the country from February to May, according to the Famine Early Warning Systems Network (FEWS NET).<sup>5</sup> Prior to Tropical Cyclone Gati, households in northeastern Somalia struggled to meet minimum food needs due to the continued effects of drought-induced livestock losses between 2016 and 2019, as well as COVID-19-related economic impacts. Additional cyclone-related livestock loss and damage to livelihood assets have resulted in widening food consumption gaps for many households in the region. With a below-average *deyr* harvest anticipated in January and below-average rainfall levels forecasted during the April-to-June *gu* rainy season, populations in Iskushuban will likely experience Emergency levels of acute food insecurity through May, as food insecurity worsens in other parts of Somalia. The country’s desert locust infestations also pose additional risks to crops and pastures during the period, as Tropical Cyclone Gati and recent rains in central and northern Somalia in December created conditions conducive for further breeding and swarm development, the UN reports.

<sup>5</sup> 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.

## **Deyr Rains Impact 73,000 People in Somalia from October to November**

From October to November, *deyr* rains and resultant flooding affected at least 73,000 people across Somalia, including more than 53,000 IDPs and host community members in Baidoa town in South West State, according to the UN. The *deyr* rains compounded existing humanitarian needs resulting from atypically heavy rainfall and subsequent flooding that affected approximately 545,000 people during the July-to-September *hagaa* dry season. As of late November, flood-affected populations remained in need of emergency food assistance, safe drinking water, and shelter support, including items such as mosquito nets, and humanitarian organizations had reached fewer than 50 percent of the individuals displaced by the *deyr* rains with emergency assistance.

USAID/BHA partners continue to support flood response activities in Banadir Region and Galmudug, Jubaland, and South West states in coordination with the UN and other relief actors. Following the flooding, USAID/BHA partners conducted rapid needs assessments of affected areas, distributed hygiene and emergency shelter kits, assisted IDP communities by unblocking drainage channels in IDP camps, and conducted hygiene promotion and environmental cleanup campaigns to address the heightened risk of waterborne disease transmission that often accompanies flooding. In addition, USAID/BHA partner the UN World Food Program (WFP) provided emergency food assistance to nearly 20,000 displaced households in flood-affected areas of southern Somalia.

## **COVID-19 Outbreak Heightens Protection Risks for Vulnerable Households**

Protection incidents—including gender-based violence (GBV) and violence against children—have increased in Somalia since March 2020 due to COVID-19-related movement restrictions and the related adverse socioeconomic effects of the pandemic, according to relief actors. Throughout the pandemic, government-imposed measures intended to mitigate the spread of COVID-19 have reduced women and girls' access to social support systems and humanitarian assistance throughout the country.

Consequently, protection risks facing women and girls have compounded, as the reach of support for GBV survivors has diminished. In addition, limited access to protection services has contributed to an increase in violence against children, child labor, early marriage, and forced recruitment of children into armed groups, relief actors report.

## **Forced Displacements and IDP Evictions Exacerbate Humanitarian Needs**

Forced displacements and continued IDP evictions—despite an eviction moratorium issued in early 2020 in response to the COVID-19 outbreak in Somalia—continue to exacerbate humanitarian needs for local populations and IDPs. In December 2020, a landlord forcibly evicted nearly 7,000 IDPs from seven settlements in Banadir without notice, reportedly destroying facilities including shelters, latrines, and water distribution points, according to the UN; the evicted IDPs required urgent shelter and WASH support. These evictions follow similar events in the Hargeisa municipality of the semi-autonomous region of Somaliland, as well as in Banadir and Jubaland, where road construction and disputes between landowners resulted in the forced removal of more than 10,000 IDPs from their dwellings in late September. Additional forced displacements from seven villages in Lower Shabelle State's Marka District resulted in the arrival of nearly 17,000 displaced people with significant food, shelter, and WASH needs in late December. In response, USAID/BHA partners have scaled up humanitarian assistance to displaced persons in Marka, and are providing emergency WASH services to an nearly 15,000 individuals.

## KEY FIGURES



**\$334 Million**

In dedicated USG support for emergency food assistance in FY 2020



**\$27.8 Million**

In dedicated USG support for life-saving health care in FY 2020



**\$22.1 Million**

In dedicated USG support for WASH programming in FY 2020



**11**

Number of USG implementing partners supporting programming to combat malnutrition in FY 2020

## U.S. GOVERNMENT RESPONSE

### FOOD SECURITY

USAID/BHA supports WFP and four international non-governmental organizations to provide emergency food assistance to IDPs, refugees, host community members, and other populations facing acute food insecurity in Somalia. With more than \$334 million in FY 2020 funding from USAID/BHA alongside other donor support, partners provided cash transfers for food, food vouchers, and in-kind food assistance—including U.S.-sourced commodities, as well as locally, regionally, and internationally procured commodities—to reduce food consumption gaps at the household level and help prevent the deterioration of food security outcomes across Somalia.

### HEALTH

USAID/BHA implementing partners are working to enhance access to basic health services across 16 regions of Somalia through integrated health, nutrition, protection, and WASH programs. USAID/BHA partners provide medical supplies, support health centers, and train community health workers to address urgent health needs. In addition, State/PRM partners support essential health interventions for IDPs and other vulnerable populations countrywide.

### WASH

USAID/BHA and State/PRM support WASH programming throughout Somalia to prevent outbreaks of communicable disease such as cholera. USAID/BHA and State/PRM funding supports critical WASH activities, including by conducting hygiene awareness sessions, rehabilitating water systems destroyed by conflict and natural disasters, and providing safe drinking water and sanitation to populations in need.

### NUTRITION

USAID/BHA supports WFP and 10 other implementing partners on the forefront of efforts to prevent, identify, and treat acute malnutrition across Somalia. By training local stakeholders how to effectively manage acute malnutrition, USAID/BHA partners foster and support existing community-based nutrition systems geared toward decreasing morbidity and mortality resulting from malnutrition across Somalia. Nutritional programming also supports evidence-based management of malnutrition through focusing on children and pregnant and lactating women in particular.

## CONTEXT IN BRIEF

- Persistent food insecurity, widespread violence, and protracted population displacement, as well as recurrent droughts and floods, have characterized the complex emergency in Somalia since 1991. The current conflict—primarily related to al-Shabaab attacks and resultant military operations, as well as intercommunal violence—continues to restrict trade and market activities while contributing to population displacement and food insecurity.
- Attacks against civilians and aid workers also disrupt livelihoods and hinder humanitarian response activities, particularly in areas that lack established local authorities and where al-Shabaab is present. Sustained life-saving assistance, coupled with interventions aimed at building resilience, is critical to help vulnerable households meet basic needs, reduce acute malnutrition, rebuild assets, and protect livelihoods.
- Recurrent drought conditions and seasonal flooding have amplified conflict-derived humanitarian needs in Somalia; IDPs and other vulnerable populations remain particularly susceptible to cyclical climatic shocks.
- On October 26, 2020, U.S. Ambassador Donald Y. Yamamoto redeclared a disaster for FY 2021 in response to the ongoing complex emergency in Somalia.
- On June 17, 2019, USAID Administrator Mark Green reopened the USAID Mission in Somalia’s capital city of Mogadishu, which had closed in 1991 along with the former U.S. Embassy in Mogadishu.

### USG HUMANITARIAN FUNDING FOR THE SOMALIA RESPONSE IN FY 2021<sup>1</sup>

IMPLEMENTING PARTNER	ACTIVITY	LOCATION	AMOUNT
<b>USAID/BHA</b>			
WFP	Cash Transfers for Food; Local, Regional, and International Procurement (LRIP)	Countrywide	\$21,000,000
<b>TOTAL USAID/BHA FUNDING</b>			<b>\$21,000,000</b>
<b>TOTAL USG FUNDING FOR COMPLEX EMERGENCY IN SOMALIA IN FY 2021</b>			<b>\$21,000,000</b>

<sup>1</sup>Year of funding indicates the date of commitment or obligation, not appropriation, of funds. Funding figures reflect publicly announced funding as of January 9, 2021.

### USG HUMANITARIAN FUNDING FOR THE SOMALIA RESPONSE IN FY 2020<sup>1</sup>

IMPLEMENTING PARTNER	ACTIVITY	LOCATION	AMOUNT
<b>FUNDING IN SOMALIA FOR THE COMPLEX EMERGENCY</b>			
<b>USAID/BHA</b>			
Non-Food Assistance			
Implementing Partners (IPs)	Agriculture and Food Security; Economic Recovery and Market Systems; Health; Humanitarian Coordination and Information Management; Logistics Support and Relief Commodities; Multipurpose Cash Assistance (MPCA); Natural and Technological Risks; Nutrition; Protection; Risk Management Policy and Practice; Shelter and Settlements; WASH	Countrywide	\$94,890,933
	Program Support		\$692,471
<b>TOTAL NON-FOOD ASSISTANCE FUNDING</b>			<b>\$95,583,404</b>

Food Assistance			
IPs	1,390 metric tons (MT) of U.S. In-Kind Food Assistance	Countrywide	\$10,000,000
	Cash Transfers for Food; Complementary Services; LRIP	Countrywide	\$66,898,755
WFP	41,800 MT of U.S. In-Kind Food Assistance	Countrywide	\$88,794,102
	Cash Transfers for Food, LRIP	Countrywide	\$167,700,000
	Program Support		\$1,290,453
<b>TOTAL FOOD ASSISTANCE FUNDING</b>			<b>\$334,683,310</b>
<b>TOTAL USAID/BHA FUNDING<sup>2</sup></b>			<b>\$430,266,714</b>
STATE/PRM			
IPs	Multi-Sector Assistance, Protection, Refugee Assistance	Countrywide	\$51,200,000
<b>TOTAL STATE/PRM FUNDING</b>			<b>\$51,200,000</b>
<b>TOTAL USG FUNDING FOR THE COMPLEX EMERGENCY IN SOMALIA IN FY 2020</b>			<b>\$481,466,714</b>

FUNDING IN SOMALIA FOR COVID-19 OUTBREAK PREPAREDNESS & RESPONSE <sup>3</sup>			
USAID/BHA			
Non-Food Assistance			
IPs	Health, Logistics Support and Relief Commodities, MPCA, Protection, WASH	Countrywide	\$17,600,000
<b>TOTAL NON-FOOD ASSISTANCE FUNDING</b>			<b>\$17,600,000</b>
<b>TOTAL USAID/BHA FUNDING</b>			<b>\$17,600,000</b>
STATE/PRM			
IPs	Health, Protection, WASH	Countrywide	\$6,242,000
<b>TOTAL STATE/PRM FUNDING</b>			<b>\$6,242,000</b>
<b>TOTAL USG FUNDING FOR COVID-19 OUTBREAK PREPAREDNESS &amp; RESPONSE IN SOMALIA IN FY 2020</b>			<b>\$23,842,000</b>

<b>TOTAL USAID/BHA FUNDING FOR THE SOMALIA RESPONSE IN FY 2020</b>			<b>\$447,866,714</b>
<b>TOTAL STATE/PRM FUNDING FOR THE SOMALIA RESPONSE IN FY 2020</b>			<b>\$57,442,000</b>
<b>TOTAL USG HUMANITARIAN FUNDING FOR THE SOMALIA RESPONSE IN FY 2020</b>			<b>\$505,308,714</b>

<sup>1</sup> Year of funding indicates the date of commitment or obligation, not appropriation, of funds. Funding figures reflect publicly announced funding as of September 30, 2020

<sup>2</sup> Humanitarian funding for the complex emergency in Somalia includes \$7,092,866 for the ongoing desert locust response. For additional information for the Somalia desert locust response, please refer to the USAID/BHA East Africa Desert Locust Crisis Fact Sheet.

<sup>3</sup> Figures represent supplemental International Disaster Assistance and Migration and Refugee Assistance funding committed for COVID-19 preparedness and response activities as of September 30, 2020.

## PUBLIC DONATION INFORMATION

- The most effective way people can assist relief efforts is by making cash contributions to humanitarian organizations that are conducting relief operations. A list of humanitarian organizations that are accepting cash donations for disaster responses around the world can be found at [interaction.org](https://www.interaction.org).
- USAID encourages cash donations because they allow aid professionals to procure the exact items needed (often in the affected region); reduce the burden on scarce resources (such as transportation routes, staff time, and warehouse space); can be transferred very quickly and without transportation costs; support the economy of the disaster-stricken region; and ensure culturally, dietarily, and environmentally appropriate assistance.
- More information can be found at:
  - USAID Center for International Disaster Information: [cidi.org](https://www.cidi.org)
  - Information on relief activities of the humanitarian community can be found at [reliefweb.int](https://www.reliefweb.int).

USAID/BHA bulletins appear on the USAID website at [usaid.gov/humanitarian-assistance/where-we-work](https://www.usaid.gov/humanitarian-assistance/where-we-work)