

## Context

Somalia continues to face a severe, protracted humanitarian crisis in 2025, with 5.98 million people in need of assistance and 4.4 million projected to experience acute food insecurity between October and December. The situation is driven by consecutive poor rainy seasons, critical water scarcity, and rising temperatures, compounded by conflict, displacement, and disease outbreaks. Malnutrition remains alarming, with 1.6 million children under five likely to suffer from acute malnutrition, including over 400,000 with severe acute malnutrition. Funding gaps have led to inadequate health and nutrition services, leaving pregnant women and children without life-saving care.<sup>1</sup>

## CERF allocations to Somalia in 2025

In **February 2025**, amid severe funding gaps and escalating humanitarian needs driven by prolonged drought, flooding, and conflict, CERF allocated \$14.8 million through its **Underfunded Emergencies** window to reach 1.39 million people in 10 priority districts. This allocation was jointly prioritized with the Somalia Humanitarian Fund's \$28 million to maximize impact and improve last-mile delivery in hard-to-reach areas. UN agencies (FAO, IOM, UNICEF, WFP, WHO) implemented integrated interventions across Food Security, Health, Nutrition, and WASH, including cash transfers, livestock support, disease surveillance, maternal and child health services, and water source rehabilitation.

Beyond immediate relief, **CERF allocated \$1.85 million in dedicated climate funding** to FAO for a project introducing drought-resilient fodder production, solar-powered water systems, and community-led water management, reducing reliance on costly water trucking and mitigating protection risks for women and girls.

In **November 2025**, as forecasts warned of below-average rainfall and critical water scarcity, CERF allocated **\$10 million for drought early action**. This funding aims to support 600,000 people with life-saving assistance across Protection, Health, Nutrition, Food Security, and WASH. CERF's early funding is critical to prevent further deteriorations in food security, protect women and girls from heightened protection risks, and sustain essential health and nutrition services amid collapsing systems.

## Overview of CERF allocations to Somalia 2021 – 2025 (as of 30 November 2025)

Year	RR (US\$)	Emergency Type	UFE (US\$)	Emergency Type	Total (US\$)
2021	\$8M	Drought	N/A	N/A	<b>\$35M</b>
	\$7M	Drought			
	\$20M	Drought			
2022	\$7M	Displacement	N/A	N/A	<b>\$48M</b>
	\$10M	Drought			
	\$14M	Drought			
	\$17M	Drought			
2023	\$10M	Flood	N/A	N/A	<b>\$28M</b>

<sup>1</sup> UN OCHA Somalia 2025. [Somalia | OCHA](#)

	\$18M	Drought			
2024	\$5M \$3M \$2M	Drought Displacement Cholera	N/A	N/A	<b>\$10M</b>
2025	\$10M	Drought	\$15M	Drought	<b>\$25M</b>
<b>Total 2021-25</b>	<b>\$131M</b>		<b>\$15</b>		<b>\$146M</b>

**[Biography of Mr. George Conway, Deputy Special Representative of the Secretary-General, Resident and Humanitarian Coordinator for Somalia](#)**



Prior to this role, George served as Deputy Director at UNDP’s Crisis Bureau in New York. His vast UN career includes serving as Strategic Advisor to UNDP’s Regional Bureau for Africa (2012-2013), Country Director a.i. in South Sudan for the first year following its declaration of independence, and prior to independence as UNDP’s Head of Programmes in Juba (2007-2012). He started his UN career in Indonesia (2001-2007) on UNDP’s crisis prevention and recovery portfolio, and recovery efforts in Aceh following the Indian Ocean tsunami. Before joining UNDP, George worked in Ottawa as an analyst on peace and conflict issues, and with the Canadian national stand-by roster of civilian expertise for rapid-response deployment to peace-keeping operations. He holds a Master’s degree in International Affairs (Development / Conflict) from Carleton University in Ottawa, an interdisciplinary Master’s degree from the University of Western Ontario, and a Bachelor’s degree in Anthropology from the University of Winnipeg.