



State of Climate in Somalia 2025

Briefing Paper

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Objectives

This briefing paper assesses Somalia's 2024 climate challenges, highlighting rising temperatures, erratic rainfall, and extreme weather. Many people face food insecurity, and thousands have been displaced by floods and droughts. With 90% of land arid/semi-arid, agriculture and infrastructure remain highly vulnerable. The report urges urgent climate action through adaptation and mitigation strategies.

1. Energy

Somalia's electricity access rose from 49% in 2020 to 61.9% in 2023, but rural areas lag at 39.4%, and nomadic communities at less than 9% (World Bank, 2023). The country relies on expensive diesel-powered generators (128 MW capacity, but its renewable energy potential is vast, with wind capacity estimated at 30,000–45,000 MW and solar exceeding 2,000 kWh/year (IEA, 2019).

2. Water

Only 56% of Somalia's population has access to improved water sources. Droughts severely impact rain-fed agriculture and livestock, which sustain 80% of the population. Saltwater intrusion from rising sea levels further threatens freshwater availability in coastal areas (World Bank, 2024).

3. Temperature

Somalia's average temperature is around 30°C, with projections showing a rise of 1.4°C–1.9°C within the next decade. This increases drought risks, reduces water availability, and endangers livestock, worsening food insecurity (ICPAC, 2024).

4. GHG Emissions

Somalia's GHG emissions were 33.36 MtCO₂e in 2022, rising to 50.71 MtCO₂e with LULUCF Under a Business-as-Usual scenario, emissions are expected to grow by 19.8% by 2030. The energy sector's emissions alone are set to increase by 3.3% (IMF).

5. Deforestation Trends

Charcoal production fuels Somalia's deforestation crisis, with 47.9% of households relying on charcoal and 41.3% on firewood. Firewood dependency is highest in nomadic 94.3% and rural 55.8% communities, leading to severe land degradation (Somali Household Budget Survey, 2023).

6. Sea Level Rise

Somalia's sea levels are rising at 3.5 mm per year, with projections of 11–12 cm by 2030 and up to 42 cm by 2080, threatening coastal cities like Mogadishu and Kismayo with flooding and saltwater intrusion (Weathering Risk, 2022).

7. Climate Vulnerability Index

Somalia ranks among the most climate-vulnerable nations due to extreme weather, food insecurity, and weak infrastructure. Over 90% of the land is arid or semi-arid, heightening exposure to climate disasters (ND-GAIN).

8. Rainfall Patterns

Rainfall is highly erratic, with annual averages below 200 mm and some areas receiving less than 50 mm. ENSO influences rainfall variability, causing prolonged dry spells and sudden heavy rains of 2023 that disrupt agriculture and water supplies (ICPAC, 2024).

Corporate and Policy Responses

Somalia's climate governance remains limited, with NDCs aiming to stabilize GHG emissions at BAU levels. Climate

financing, capacity-building, and technology transfer are critical for achieving climate goals.

The Path Forward

1. **Adaptation Measures:**

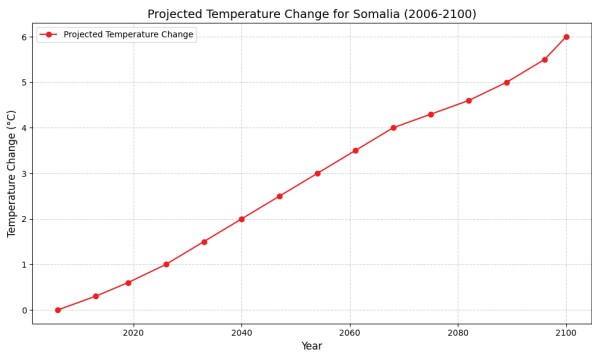
Strengthen early warning systems, adopt sustainable agriculture, and enhance water conservation.
2. **Mitigation Strategies:**

Expand renewable energy and promote reforestation to combat desertification.
3. **Governance & Investment:**

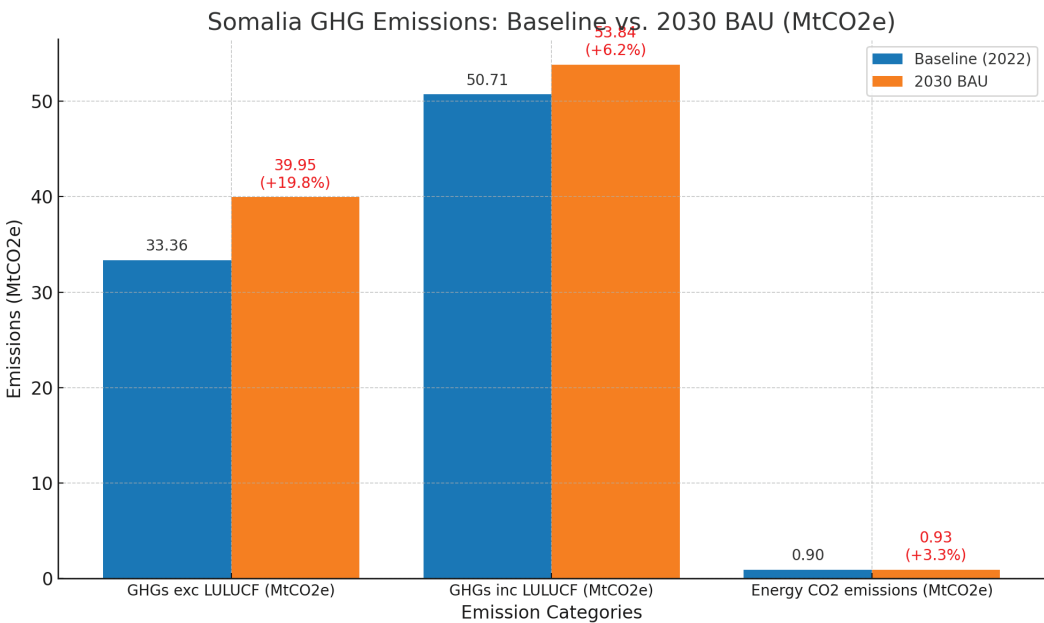
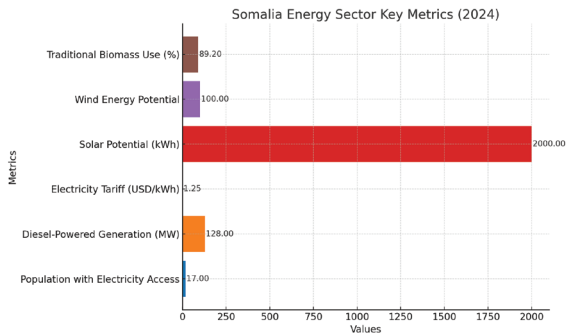
Improve climate governance and mobilize international funding for adaptation projects.

Conclusion

Somalia faces severe climate threats, requiring urgent action. A multi-stakeholder approach integrating policies, investments, and global support is key to building resilience and ensuring a sustainable future.



Source : ICPAC



Source: IMF Implied NDC 2030 GHG Emissions targets