



Highlights

- WFP is implementing resilience strengthening activities in 16 targeted communes of the South and South East, where the food security situation has improved. Nutritional support and school feeding programmes are also implemented in those communes, for higher impact.
- Given that the 2017/2018 cyclone season is reported to be highly active, WFP is enhancing its emergency preparedness measures. WFP has provided emergency food assistance to 11,790 households displaced following cyclone AVA.
- In view of the imminent threat of the Fall Army Worm (reported in 14 of 22 regions), an expert assessment mission has been commissioned with FAO support.

WFP Madagascar Country Brief

WFP Country Strategy

	Total Requirements (in USD)	Total Received (in USD)	6 Month Net Funding Requirements (in USD)*
Madagascar Transitional Interim Country Strategic Plan (18 months)	59.6 m	11.83 m (20%)	10.73 m (18%)
Strategic Outcome 1: Populations affected by natural disasters have access to adequate food and nutrition during and in the aftermath of crises			
SR: 1 Focus area: Crisis Response	21.57 m	7.0 m (32%)	6.8 m (32%)
Strategic Outcome 2: School children in southern and central regions receive safe, adequate and nutritious food throughout the year			
SR: 1 Focus area: Root Causes	16.5 m	3.26 m (20%)	1.54 m (9%)
Strategic Outcome 3: Malnourished populations in targeted districts have improved nutritional status in line with national targets			
SR: 2 Focus area: Root Causes	4.59 m	0.29 m (6%)	0.61 m (13%)
Strategic Outcome 4: Vulnerable communities, smallholder farmers in crisis-prone areas have increased resilience to shocks and benefited from enhanced in-country emergency preparedness capacities			
SR: 3 Focus area: Resilience	16.8 m	1.17 m (7%)	1.77 m (11%)
Strategic Outcome 5: Government institutions and the humanitarian community in Madagascar are supported in their efforts to improve effectiveness and efficiency of crisis response			
SR: 8 Focus area: Resilience	0.21 m	0.12 m (54%)	0 m (0%)

February - July 2018



WFP Madagascar is transitioning to a new Country Strategic Plan (2019-2024). In the interim, it has adopted a transitional project with the following outcomes:

Strategic Outcome 1: *Populations affected by natural disasters have access to adequate food and nutrition during and in the aftermath of crises.* This activity is implemented in the drought-affected southern areas of the country. It aims to provide relief and early recovery food assistance (through Food Assistance for Assets) to

food insecure communities through a combination of food and cash-based modalities, supplementary feeding for the treatment of moderate acute malnutrition and a Food by Prescription programme for malnourished TB and HIV patients.

Strategic Outcome 2: *School children in southern and central regions receive safe, adequate and nutritious food throughout the year.* WFP supports 274,000 school children in 1,100 primary public schools in the Southern regions and marginalized urban areas. This programme aims to improve children's access to education and school performance in food insecure areas with low educational indicators. In the South, the school feeding programme acts as a safety net, transferring income in the form of food to communities and helping to reduce the adoption of negative coping strategies.

Strategic Outcome 3: *Malnourished populations in targeted districts have improved nutritional status in line with national targets.* In partnership with the National Office for Nutrition and NGOs, WFP is providing supplementary feeding to 15,000 women and children for the prevention of Moderate Acute Malnutrition during the lean season. A Moderate Acute Malnutrition (MAM) treatment programme is also being implemented in the 16 targeted communes covered by Food Assistance for Assets (FFA) and school feeding programmes.

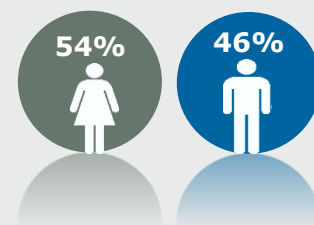
In Numbers

1.5 million people affected by severe food insecurity in Southern and South-eastern regions of Madagascar

467,781 people assisted from October to December 2017

11,790 people affected by cyclone AVA received food assistance in January

265,502 school children received daily hot meals



Main Photo Credit: WFP/Jules Bosco Bezaka
Caption: Participants of a Food Assistance for Assets scheme in Southern Madagascar (Ankily, Bekily district)

January 2018

Strategic Outcome 4: *Vulnerable communities, smallholder farmers in crisis-prone areas have increased resilience to shocks and benefited from enhanced in-country emergency preparedness capacities.* Based on the "Purchase for Progress initiative" (P4P), this programme supports farmers' access to agricultural markets by purchasing their surplus production. Farmers' organizations receive technical assistance from IFAD and are provided with high quality and drought-resistant seeds by FAO. In the south, 4,000 farmers benefit from P4P.

Strategic Outcome 5: Government institutions and the humanitarian community in Madagascar are supported in their efforts to improve effectiveness and efficiency of crisis response. Under this strategic outcome, the re-establishment of an Early Warning System for the southern regions of Madagascar is underway through a joint WFP, UNDP and OCHA initiative.

Operational Updates

Integrated approach in the 16 targeted communes of the South: Since October 2017, in coordination with other actors present in the South and South-Eastern regions, WFP began implementing a complementary set of programmes including Food Assistance for Assets activities, MAM prevention and school feeding in areas which experienced an improvement in their food security situation, to strengthen the resilience of these communities. For greater impact, the approach will be maintained in these areas for at least two years. As part of the FFA programme, 195,505 people are being assisted through food and cash-based modalities.

WFP's response to cyclone AVA: Tropical cyclone AVA made landfall on the eastern coast of Madagascar causing 29 fatalities and displacing 17,000 people from their homes. While the Government provided an initial response, the support of other organizations including WFP was sought. WFP supported the Disaster Risk Management Authority (BNGRC) to conduct drone and aerial assessments. At a later stage, WFP provided unconditional food assistance to 11,790 cyclone affected people in Ampanefy/Soavina (surroundings of the capital which were heavily flooded), and, south-eastern district of Farafangana (both lightly conditional Food Assistance for Assets, and unconditional food distribution).

Fall Army Worm (FAW): FAW was first reported in Madagascar at the beginning of November 2017 in five municipalities of two districts (Tulear II and Morombe) in south-western regions. The crops at risks are maize, black eye peas, groundnuts. Under the leadership of the Ministry of Agriculture, a Task Force assigned to the fight against FAW proliferation was established in January 2018. To date, the presence of FAW is reported in 14 out of the 22 Regions of Madagascar. Most of them are major food crop producing areas. About 250,000 hectares of maize fields are at risk in the affected regions. During the second half of February 2018, FAO will commission an expert assessment mission to support the Ministry of Agriculture in analyzing the FAW situation in the country.

Challenges

WFP Madagascar is facing significant shortfalls to be able to continue its emergency food assistance during the lean season. The funding requirements from February 2018 to July 2018 stands at USD 10.7 million. WFP school feeding programme is also in urgent need of USD 9.4 million to be able to provide daily hot meals to 300,000 schoolchildren during the next school year (Oct 2018 – Aug 2019). WFP also requires crucial funding for continuing its nutritional support to malnourished TB patients (USD 250,000 required for supporting 2,250 TB patients throughout 2018).

Country Background



Despite significant potentials, over the past decades, Madagascar has experienced a stagnation in per capita income coupled with a rise in absolute poverty: 92 percent of its estimated 23 million people live below the international poverty line.

Madagascar has experienced several political crises since its independence in 1960. The latest (2009-2013) negatively impacted institutional capacities, economic growth, major social sectors and compromised development efforts. It also reduced vulnerable people's access to basic services and their ability to prevent and recover from frequent shocks. Madagascar is one of the ten countries most vulnerable to natural disasters affecting communities' food and nutrition security. Five million people live in areas highly prone to cyclones, floods or drought. These risks are exacerbated by climate change and the El Niño climatic event.

WFP's Country Strategy focuses on:

- 1) Providing emergency assistance to disaster affected communities and increasing their resilience to shocks;
- 2) Improving access to basic social services and safety nets; and
- 3) Strengthening access to markets for small farmers.

WFP has been present in Madagascar since 1968.

Population: **24.9 million**

2016 Human Development Index: **158 out of 187**

Income Level: **Low**

Chronic malnutrition: **47.3 % of children between 6-59 months**

Donors

Andorra, France, Global Partnership for Education (through the World Bank), Japan, Monaco, Norway, Switzerland, and USAID (in alphabetical order)

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Further information: www.wfp.org/Countries/Madagascar