



# WFP Madagascar Country Brief

May 2018

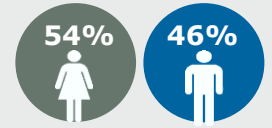
## In Numbers

**1,534 mt** of food assistance distributed

**US\$ 253,618** cash based transfers made

**US\$ 29.8 million** six months (June-November 2018) net funding requirement

**428,585 people**  
assisted  
in May 2018



## Operational Context

Despite significant potential, 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.



Population: **24.9 million**

2015 Human Development Index:  
**158 out of 187**

Income Level: **Low**

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

## Operational Updates

- Food security situation in southern Madagascar and WFP's response:** Due to low levels of rain in the south, the food security situation is fragile as most households reported losing their crops. An in-depth multi-sectorial food security assessment and IPC analysis have been conducted to evaluate the food security situation in southern Madagascar. In this context, and guided by evidence on the most drought affected areas, WFP aims at assisting the most vulnerable groups through food and cash-based assistance, in addition to providing nutritional support for the prevention of acute malnutrition and the treatment of moderate acute malnutrition (MAM), in close collaboration with the Government and other partners.
- Food Assistance for Assets (FFA):** To support the recovery of livelihoods among drought affected-communities, in October 2017, WFP selected 16 communes, which were affected by recurrent shocks and food insecurity during the past ten years. In these communes, FFA (food and cash modalities) activities are accompanied by a MAM prevention component targeting pregnant and breastfeeding women and children below two years of age. WFP's school feeding programme is also implemented in the same zones, for more impact and complementarity. In parallel, areas classified in IPC 3 (crisis) and IPC 4 (emergency) phases, received food and cash-based assistance, in return of their participation in FFA schemes. As part of the FFA programme, in May, 150,836 people were assisted through food and cash-based transfers.
- Support to market access:** 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. Furthermore, WFP, IFAD and FAO are jointly implementing a food transformation project (cassava to "gari" or cassava flour) in southern Madagascar.
- WFP's response to cyclone Ava and tropical storm Eliakim:** WFP initially responded to AVA cyclone, which hit the eastern coast of Madagascar in January, through unconditional food distributions, and early recovery activities in four cyclone affected districts of eastern and south-eastern Madagascar, assisting 29,520 beneficiaries.

**Main Photo** Credit: WFP/Jules Bosco Bezaka  
Schoolchildren during their lunch break in a WFP-assisted primary public school in southern Madagascar. Sakabera commune, Tuléar district.

**Contact info:** Anahito Boboeva [anahito.boboeva@wfp.org](mailto:anahito.boboeva@wfp.org)  
**Country Director:** Moumini Ouedraogo  
**Further information:** [www.wfp.org/Countries/Madagascar](http://www.wfp.org/Countries/Madagascar)

Madagascar Transitional Interim Country Strategic Plan (18 months)		
Total Requirement (in USD)	Confirmed Contributions (in USD)	Six Month Net Funding Requirements (in USD)
<b>Country Strategic Plan (2017-2021)</b>		
100.08 m*	29.88m (30%)	29.82 m (30%)
<b>Strategic Result 1:</b> Everyone has access to food		
<b>Strategic Outcome 1:</b> Populations affected by natural disasters have access to adequate food and nutrition during and in the aftermath of crises		
59.71 m	21.11 m (35%)	19.58m (33%)
<b>Strategic Result 1:</b> Everyone has access to food		
<b>Strategic Outcome 2:</b> School children in southern and central regions receive safe, adequate and nutritious food throughout the year		
16.42 m	3.90 m (24%)	1.91 m (12%)
<b>Strategic Result 2:</b> No one suffers from malnutrition		
<b>Strategic Outcome 3:</b> Malnourished populations in targeted districts have improved nutritional status in line with national targets		
7.1 m	0.72 m (10%)	3.17 m (45%)
<b>Strategic Result 3:</b> Smallholder productivity and incomes		
<b>Strategic Outcome 4:</b> Vulnerable communities, smallholder farmers in crisis-prone areas have increased resilience to shocks and benefited from enhanced in-country emergency preparedness capacities		
16.72 m	3.97 m (24%)	5.06 m (30%)
<b>Strategic Result 8:</b> Enhance global partnerships		
<b>Strategic Outcome 5:</b> Government institutions and the humanitarian community in Madagascar are supported in their efforts to improve effectiveness and efficiency of crisis response		
0.21 m	0.19 m (87%)	0.09 (40%)

## WFP Country Activities

<b>SO 1</b>	Provide food and nutrition assistance to vulnerable populations affected by crisis
<b>SO 2</b>	Provide school meals in the central and southern regions of Madagascar
<b>SO 3</b>	Provide undernutrition prevention in districts with high rates of undernutrition
<b>SO 4</b>	Provide support to small-holder farmers and vulnerable communities in market access, resilience, and disaster preparedness
<b>SO 5</b>	Provide analysis and assessment activities to the government and partners Provide shared services and platforms to partners

Early recovery activities were accompanied by prevention of acute malnutrition activities to avoid the deterioration of the nutritional status of pregnant and nursing women and children below two years of age. The severe tropical storm Eliakim made landfall in Cap Masaola, north-eastern Madagascar, on 16 March. To help the most disaster affected communities restore their livelihoods and assets, WFP is assisting 16,150 disaster affected households in Maroansetra and Nosy Varika districts.

- **Nutrition:** To prevent the further deterioration of their nutritional status, in May, WFP provided supplementary feeding to 3,252 children under two years of age and pregnant and breastfeeding women. In addition, 13,517 malnourished children below five years of age and their families (through protection rations) were assisted in April as part of the moderate acute malnutrition treatment programme. The second phase of the stunting prevention joint project (WHO, UNFPA, FAO and WFP) was initiated in February 2018. This project contributes to one of the objectives of the National Nutrition Plan (reduce chronic malnutrition from 47.3 percent to 38 percent by 2021). In May, 9,925 children aged 6-23 months and pregnant and nursing women were assisted in the districts of Amboasary and Ampanihy.
- **School Meals Programme:** In close collaboration with the Ministry of National Education, in May, WFP provided daily fortified hot meals to 247,875 children in around 1,100 schools of the three southern regions and the marginalized urban areas of Antananarivo, Tamatave and Tulear.

## Monitoring

- The results of the Post Distribution Monitoring exercises that were conducted in January showed that, depending on the area of intervention, the main food security indicators presented significant variations. In drought prone areas, the food consumption score had improved for households that had received assistance as part of the El Nino response that began early 2017 (Ambovombe and Bekily districts). Communities living in other districts (south-western regions) experienced a deterioration of their food consumption score as they were only assisted after the IPC results were released in October 2017.

## Challenges

- In southern Madagascar, WFP continues to face logistical and implementation challenges, including the poor state of roads and infrastructure and the low capacity of transporters to deliver food and nutritional products to a significant number of activity sites.
- In terms of funding constraints, the school meals programme is facing a critical funding shortfall for the upcoming 2018/2019 school year. The funding shortfall for this programme stands at USD 6.14 million. In southern Madagascar, school meals are often the only regular meal that school children receive. A disruption of the programme would lead to an increase of school dropouts and a deterioration of children's nutritional status.

## Donors

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