



World Food Programme

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Madagascar Country Brief October 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**

2017 Human Development Index:
161 out of 189

Income Level: **Low**

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

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

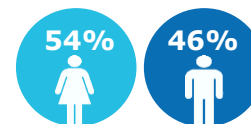
In Numbers

2,000 mt of food assistance distributed

US\$ 55 m six months net funding requirements
(October 2018 – March 2019)

207,497 people assisted

in October 2018



Operational Updates

- Food security situation in the drought-affected south: according to food security assessments (integrated food security classification - IPC June 2018), over 1.2 million people in the southern and southeastern Madagascar were food insecure. Among them, 400,000 people are in emergency and 861,000 people in crisis phase.
- As per the findings of another IPC analysis conducted in October, during the July to October period, Beloha district remained in IPC 4 phase. Amboasary Sud and Tsihombe districts were classified in IPC3 (!) signifying that they would be in a higher phase in absence of humanitarian aid. During the July to October period, it was estimated that 1,058,711 people were in IPC 3 and 4 phases in the southern and south-eastern regions (298,000 people in IPC 4 phase and 760,000 people in IPC 3 phase corresponding to 6% and 17% of the assessed areas' population). During the projected period (November 2018 – March 2019), the district of Beloha will remain in IPC phase 4 and Ampanihy district will transition to IPC 4 phase. In total, it is estimated that 366,360 people will be in IPC 4 phase emergency phase and 940,615 in IPC 3 crisis phase during the next months of the lean season.
- The July 2018 Crop and food security assessment mission preliminary results recommend emergency multi-sectoral humanitarian assistance prior to the lean season (October 2018), to meet households' immediate food needs during the peak of the lean season in November 2018.
- In support to the Government, WFP aims to provide food assistance and nutritional support to 850,000 people using a combination of food and cash-based modalities. WFP's response will focus on emergency relief assistance until December 2018, and on early recovery support from January to March 2019. It is expected that other actors (government and NGOs) will assist 35 percent of the population in IPC 3 and 4 phases.
- While 1.2 million people are at risk of food crisis, WFP emergency responses face a funding shortfall of USD 44 million for the period October – March 2019 to assist the targeted 850,000 people.

WFP response:

- Food Assistance:** in October, WFP in collaboration with NGO partners assisted 7,257 people through the food modality and 18,990 through the cash-based modality in the south. Food assistance was provided both on unconditional (general food distributions) and conditional (food for assets creation to support communities' recovery) basis.

WFP Country Strategy

Transitional - Interim Country Strategic Plan (January 2018 – June 2019)

Total Requirement (in USD)	Allocated Contributions (in USD)	Six Month Net Funding Requirements (in USD)
114.4 m	42.8 m	55 m

Strategic Result 1: Everyone has access to food

Strategic Outcome 1: Populations affected by natural disasters have access to adequate food and nutrition during and in the aftermath of crises.

Focus area: Crisis response

Activities:

- General food distribution
- Moderate acute malnutrition treatment
- Nutritional support to tuberculosis patients

Strategic Result 1: Everyone has access to food

Strategic Outcome 2: School children in southern and central regions receive safe, adequate and nutritious food throughout the year.

Focus area: Root causes

Activities:

- School canteens
- Home grown school feeding

Strategic Result 2: No one suffers from malnutrition

Strategic Outcome 3: Malnourished populations in targeted districts have improved nutritional status in line with national targets.

Focus area: Root causes

Activities:

- Acute malnutrition prevention
- Chronic malnutrition prevention
- Food fortification

Strategic Result 3: Smallholder productivity and incomes

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.

Focus area: Resilience

Activities:

- Local purchase to smallholder farmers organizations
- Food assistance for assets creation
- Disasters and crisis prevention and management

Strategic Result 8: Enhance global partnerships

Strategic Outcome 5: Government institutions and the humanitarian community in Madagascar are supported in their efforts to improve effectiveness and efficiency of crisis response.

Focus area: Resilience

Strategic Outcome 6: Government institutions and the humanitarian community in Madagascar are supported in their efforts to improve effectiveness and efficiency of crisis response

Activities:

- Food security assessments
- Vulnerability assessments

- Food assistance was accompanied by acute malnutrition prevention component benefitting 20,464 pregnant and lactating women and children under two years of age. If financial resources are sufficient, food assistance will be coupled with the Acute Malnutrition prevention programme through the monthly distribution of supplementary feeding to 83,600 children 6-23 months and 41,800 pregnant and lactating women as well as nutritional education and malnutrition screenings.

- **School Meals Programme:** In close collaboration with the Ministry of National Education, WFP provides daily fortified hot meals to pre-primary and primary school children in the three southern Regions. The 20 primary public schools supported by WFP in the marginalized urban areas of Antananarivo, Tamatave and Tulear were handed over to the Government in June 2018.
- The school meals programme faces a critical funding shortfall of USD 5 million. Received contributions and available resources enable WFP to assist 200,000 school children (in 784 schools) out of the 290,000 school children supported during the previous school year. Schools located in highly food insecure IPC 3 and IPC 4 areas were prioritized. The school meals programme resumes in November 2018 when children start the school year.
- In close collaboration with FAO and IFAD, WFP links smallholder farmers to the school meals programme. A pilot Home Grown School Feeding programme is being implemented in 20 schools, as part of which small-scale farming activities enable parent associations to supply school canteens with local foods. This pilot is being extended to 20 additional schools in southern Madagascar.
- **Nutrition:** In October, WFP provided supplementary feeding to 16,180 children under two and pregnant and lactating women in the south for stunting prevention and to 8,572 children below five years of age for acute malnutrition treatment. As part of a Food for Prescription programme, 258 tuberculosis patients were assisted in October.
- **Support to market access:** Based on the "Purchase for Progress initiative" (P4P), WFP supports farmers' access to markets by purchasing their surplus production. Farmers' organizations receive technical assistance from IFAD and are provided with drought-resistant seeds by FAO. In the south, 4,000 farmers benefit from P4P.

Challenges

- The first round of presidential elections is planned on 7 November and the second round on 19 December 2018. During the elections period, WFP will ensure that food distributions and activities do not take place during campaign sessions, and thus, avoid the political recuperation of food assistance by different political groups.
- WFP faces logistical challenges due to the poor state of roads and infrastructure, which further deteriorate during the rainy season, as well as the low capacity of transporters to deliver food to numerous distribution points in the south. Commodity lead times in Madagascar (time between the confirmation of a contribution to the arrival of food) are long and highly variable (3-6 months). This signifies that resources are to be mobilized 6 months in advance for a timely humanitarian response.
- WFP faces a funding shortfall of USD 44 million for providing unconditional food assistance and nutritional support (SO1) to 850,000 people for October 2018 to March 2019. For moderate acute malnutrition prevention activities (SO3), USD 4 million is required. If the funding shortfall is not met, WFP will no longer be able to provide supplementary feeding in November.
- The school meals programme (SO2) faces a critical funding shortfall of USD 5 million for assisting 197,043 children during the 2018 - 2019 school year. School meals are often the only regular daily meal for children in southern Madagascar. A disruption of the programme would increase school dropouts and deteriorate children's nutritional status.

Donors: Andorra, France, Germany (multilateral), Global Partnership for Education (through the World Bank), FEED Projects, Friends of Japan, Japan, Monaco, Norway, Sweden (multilateral), Switzerland, and USAID.