



World Food Programme

SAVING LIVES  
CHANGING LIVES

# WFP Madagascar Country Brief December 2021



## Operational Context

Madagascar is a low-income country with an estimated population of 26 million. With a gross domestic product per capita of USD 422, the country is ranked 164 out of 189 on the Human Development Index. Almost 70 percent of the population lives on less than USD 1.90 a day. Five million people are affected by recurring natural disasters, including cyclones, floods, and droughts. The 2018 Multiple Indicator Cluster Survey showed that the rate of acute malnutrition is 6 percent and the rate of chronic malnutrition is 42 percent, placing Madagascar as the 10<sup>th</sup> worst country affected by stunting in the world.

The COVID-19 pandemic triggered a sudden and deep recession, reversing nearly a decade of income per capita gains. The latest [World Bank economic update](#) for Madagascar estimates that the economy contracted by 4.2 percent in 2020 due to COVID-19 disruptions to global trade and domestic activity. While conditions are expected to stabilise in 2021, the impact of the pandemic will cast a long shadow on economic and social prospects and could be compounded by other shocks, including droughts and other climatic events affecting vulnerable populations.

WFP's Country Strategic Plan in Madagascar (CSP) aims to promote an integrated, shock-responsive social protection system for ensuring that vulnerable populations have access to nutritious food before, during and after crises. It also aims to provide children in vulnerable communities with access to nutritious foods while at school and extend integrated approaches for the prevention of malnutrition among vulnerable women, adolescent girls and children. Moreover, WFP helps build the resilience of vulnerable smallholder households and communities and ensure that interventions for addressing both chronic and acute needs are supported by enhanced capacities and resources for emergency preparedness and response.



Population: **26 million**

2019 Human Development Index: **164 out of 189 countries**

Income Level: **Low**

Chronic malnutrition: **42% of children aged 6-59 months**

## In Numbers

**530,515 beneficiaries with in-kind food assistance and 175,660 beneficiaries through cash transfers** under WFP drought response in southern Madagascar

**US\$ 55.8 million six-month net funding requirements for the emergency response** (February – July 2022)

**907,000 people** assisted across all activities in December 2021

As the lean season moves towards its peak, **WFP intends to gradually reach 1 million people in Integrated Food Security Phase Classification (IPC) 3 and 4** with full rations through its emergency response.

## Operational Updates – Emergency Response

### Drought Situation

Results from the [latest food security and malnutrition IPC analyses \(December 2021\)](#) show that while the number of people in IPC 4 has stabilized around 400,000 and that there are no more people in IPC 5, the number of people in IPC 3 has increased from 730,000 to over a million in the Great South since the previous IPC results released in April 2021. Overall, the results highlight a steady deterioration of the food security situation over the past year with **1.47 million people in IPC 3+** (November-December 2021 period and projection for January-April 2022) as per the latest IPC analysis. **The total number of people in IPC 3+ raises to 1.64 million when considering the four additional districts from the Great South-East** that were included in the latest January IPC analysis. The IPC analysis also reveals that **around 309,000 children, of which 60,000 severely malnourished, are likely to suffer from acute malnutrition through August 2022 in the Great South.**

**The Famine Early Warning Systems Network (FEWS NET)'s food security outlook update from December** highlights **below-average rainfall forecasts countrywide through March, most notably for southwestern Madagascar.** Given the low rainfall to date and forecast for poor rainfall for the remainder of the season in all areas except eastern Madagascar, main-season rice production in May is likely to be below-average nationally. Maize and cassava productions in the South are also expected to be below-average.

### Activation of Humanitarian Clusters

**The Food Security and Livelihood (FSL) Cluster was activated in early December.** The FSL Cluster is co-led by WFP and FAO, and co-chaired by the National Office for Risk and Disaster Management (BNGRC) and the Ministry of Agriculture, Livestock and Fisheries. In addition to the FSL Cluster, the Nutrition and WASH Clusters, both led by UNICEF, were activated in late 2021.

### Drought Response – Prevention and Treatment of Malnutrition

As part of WFP's strategy to couple general food distributions with prevention of moderate acute malnutrition activities, 116,854 children aged 6 to 59 months and 42,906 pregnant and lactating women (PLW) received nutritional supplements in December. In addition, 12,754 children aged 6 to 59 months were treated for moderate acute malnutrition.

### UNHAS Flights

In December, UNHAS transported 139 passengers from 16 organisations. Since its launch on 9 August, UNHAS Madagascar has served in 2021 a total of 644 passengers and carried 1,448 kg of cargo from 24 registered users. UNHAS registers an overall satisfaction rate of 93.75% through a recent passenger satisfaction survey. Service improvements will be implemented to address feedback received regarding flight schedules and the need to increase flight frequencies.

**Contacts:** [Pasqualina.disirio@wfp.org](mailto:Pasqualina.disirio@wfp.org) - [Arduino.mangoni@wfp.org](mailto:Arduino.mangoni@wfp.org)  
**Further information:** [www.wfp.org/countries/Madagascar](http://www.wfp.org/countries/Madagascar)  
**Facebook:** Programme Alimentaire Mondial Madagascar  
**Twitter:** @PAM Madagascar

## Country Strategic Plan (July 2019 – June 2024)

Total Requirement (in USD)	Allocated Contributions (in USD)	Six Month Net Funding Requirements (in USD) February – July 2022
<b>364.3 million</b>	<b>193.1 million</b>	<b>62.8 million</b>

### Strategic Result 1: Everyone has access to food

Strategic Outcome 1: Crisis-affected women, men, boys and girls in targeted areas are able to meet their basic food and nutrition needs before, during and after crises.

**Focus area:** Crisis response

#### Activities:

- General food distribution and early recovery
- Prevention of acute malnutrition
- Treatment of moderate acute malnutrition
- Nutritional support to tuberculosis patients

### Strategic Result 1: Everyone has access to food

Strategic Outcome 2: Primary schoolchildren in targeted areas have access to adequate, healthy and nutritious food as part of a government-led social protection strategy

**Focus area:** Resilience

#### Activities:

- School canteens
- Home grown school feeding

### Strategic Result 2: No one suffers from malnutrition

Strategic Outcome 3: Nutritionally vulnerable populations in areas with consistently high rates of undernutrition have improved nutritional status.

**Focus area:** Resilience

#### Activities:

- Chronic malnutrition prevention
- Food fortification
- Social Behavior Change Communication

### Strategic Result 3: Sustainable food systems

Strategic Outcome 4: Women and men smallholder producers in targeted communities facing climate shocks increase their access to profitable markets and establish more inclusive, efficient and resilient food systems all year round

**Focus area:** Resilience

#### Activities:

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

### Strategic Result 4: Enhance global partnerships

Strategic Outcome 5: Government and humanitarian partners in Madagascar are supported by effective emergency preparedness and response arrangements before, during and after crises.

**Focus area:** Crisis response

#### Activities:

- Support for assessment, analysis and emergency preparedness and response
- Shared logistics services and platforms
- Shared emergency telecommunications services and platforms

## Donors

African Development Bank, European Union (ECHO), France, Germany, Italy, Ireland, Japan, Republic of Korea (KOICA), LDS Church, Lichtenstein, Mauritius, Monaco, Norway, Private Donors, Republic of Korea, Switzerland, UBRAF, UN Central Emergency Revolving Fund (CERF), UNICEF, UN Peace Building Fund (PBF), United Kingdom (FCDO), USAID (Bureau for Humanitarian Assistance), WPD Japan, Share the Meal App.

## WFP Regular Programmes

### School Feeding

Jointly with the Government, WFP Madagascar is preparing a scale-up of the home-grown school feeding programme (HGSF) which involves the training of staff from the Ministry of Education and management of schools on HGSF modalities, as well as digital reporting and monitoring. The HGSF programme is based in Vatovavy, Amonon'I Mania, Atsimo Andrefana and Atsimo Atsinanana regions. Based on monitoring reports recorded to date, WFP has reached 156,507 children, 55% of them girls, and 5,335 teachers and personnel through 1,729,000 school meals served in December.

### Nutrition

In 2021, the MIARO approach has benefited 12,064 children aged 6-23 months and 18,597 PLW through specialised nutritious food. More than 32 metric tons of fresh fruits and vegetables were harvested in the gardens supported under the activity.

WFP and Tambatra consortium partners held a donor field visit in two communes of the Analamanga region. Activities included a visit of the school canteens programme, a tasting of the first in-country fortified rice produced and a visit of the rice milling unit which is being rehabilitated to meet food safety and quality standards.

The first Food Safety Day fair took place on 6 December with the support of the Scale Up Nutrition (SUN) researcher platform MIKASA. The fair showcased the dietary diversity of local products, the various types of fortified foods produced by Malagasy companies, as well as the results of research by MIKASA scientists in the field of nutrition.

On 7 December, WFP attended remotely the 2021 Tokyo Nutrition for Growth Global Summit, in which the Malagasy government pledged engagements for nutrition.

### Resilience

At the end of 2021, 29,800 meters of irrigation canals in the commune of Fotadrevo were fully completed through WFP's Food Assistance-for-Assets activities. In the area of Tameantsoa, similar activities have resulted in a 90% completion rate of the following assets: 2,750 meters long secondary canal, 2,000 meters long drainage and the creation of community nurseries.

WFP participated in the evaluation of the National Plan for Adaptation to Climate Change with UNDP. The evaluation consisted of promoting best practices in terms of adaptation, such as agricultural insurance, diversification of activities and agro-ecological techniques. Jointly with the International Fund for Agricultural Development (IFAD)'s DEFIS programme, WFP has started nutrition-sensitive micro-projects for 105 vulnerable women, which include market gardening activities and goat breeding.

### Capacity Strengthening Support to the Government

WFP continues its financial and technical support to the government of Androy for the implementation of a digital monitoring and coordination platform for all development activities spearheaded by partner organizations involved in the region.

### Funding Challenges (other than the emergency response)

WFP operations face critical funding shortfalls. The school meals programme faces a funding shortfall of USD 3.7 million for the next 12 months. For nutritional interventions, one-year funding shortfalls stand at USD 6.1 million. For the implementation of resilience activities, WFP faces a funding shortfall of USD 13.7 million. Finally, WFP urgently requires USD 1.8 million for its emergency and response preparedness activities.

### COVID-19 update

Despite an upsurge in COVID-19 cases since early December, WFP's programmes and activities continue to be carried out as planned. To date, the country has reported 57,375 cases of COVID-19 and 1,223 related deaths.