



WFP Madagascar Country Brief April 2022

World Food Programme

SAVING LIVES
CHANGING LIVES



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 10th 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 were expected to stabilise in 2021, the impact of the pandemic has casted 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

688,000 beneficiaries reached with **in-kind food assistance** and **177,160 beneficiaries** reached through **cash transfers** under WFP **drought response** in southern Madagascar in April 2022.

465,595 people affected by current **cyclone** season to be gradually reached through 3-month food and cash-based assistance.

US\$ 132.4 million required until April 2023 for the **drought emergency response** and **US\$ 19.3 million** required for the **cyclone emergency response**. The United Nations Humanitarian Air Service (**UNHAS**) is facing a **US \$1million** shortfall in 2022.

1,020,585 people assisted across all activities in April 2022.

Operational Updates – Emergency Responses

Cyclone Season Overview and Response

Between January and March 2022, Madagascar was hit by five storms and tropical cyclones (Ana, Batsirai, Dumako, Emnati, and Gombo) that caused considerable damage. More than 960,000 persons have been affected and at least 470,000 people are in urgent need of food assistance in Vatovavy, Fitovinany, and Atsimo Atsinanana regions according to the latest estimate established by the National Office of Risk and Disaster Management (BNGRC) after the passage of Cyclones Batsirai and Emnati.

In response, WFP has increased its beneficiary target to include those in rural, hard-to-reach areas and has gradually assisted 465,595 people each month since January. WFP's 3-month response is providing lifesaving food and cash assistance to families whose homes were fully or partially destroyed by the storms, as well as providing evaluation, coordination, logistics and IT support to the Government and other partners.

Emergency Overview and Response

During the ongoing lean season, **WFP intends to assist over 1 million people in IPC 3 and 4** through its emergency response in Southern Madagascar.

In April, WFP delivered life-saving assistance (through General Food Distribution and Cash Transfers) to 866,135 people in the Southern provinces.

As part of WFP's strategy to couple general food distributions with prevention of moderate acute malnutrition activities, 122,914 children aged 6 to 59 months and 16,194 pregnant and 58,003 lactating women (PLW) have so far received nutritional supplements. In addition, 56,223 children aged 6 to 59 months have been treated for moderate acute malnutrition since the beginning of the year.

UN Humanitarian Air Service (UNHAS)

In April 2022, UNHAS transported 535 passenger and 22 metric tons of cargo from 28 humanitarian organizations with a fleet of 2 fixed wing aircraft (12-seater each) and 1 Mi-8 helicopter.

UNHAS has continued to connect Antananarivo to the main locations in the south of the country while the helicopter delivered life-saving cargo to the remote and unreachable locations. The EU Humanitarian Aid Flight is enabling access to the regions hit by the cyclones such as Mananjary and Manakara.

Multi-sectorial assessment missions to 11 hard-to-reach locations in the South of Madagascar were performed with the UNHAS helicopter with the coordination of UN OCHA.

Contacts: Pasqualina.disirio@wfp.org - Arduino.mangoni@wfp.org
Further information: www.wfp.org/countries/Madagascar
Facebook: [Programme Alimentaire Mondial Madagascar](https://www.facebook.com/ProgrammeAlimentaireMondialMadagascar)
Twitter: [@PAM_Madagascar](https://twitter.com/PAM_Madagascar)

Country Strategic Plan (July 2019 – June 2024)

Total Requirement (in USD)	Allocated Contributions (in USD)	Six Month Net Funding Requirements (in USD) May – October 2022
364.3 million	193.1 million	91.5 million

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 (2021 and 2022)

African Development Bank, European Union, Canada, Finland, France, Germany, Ireland, Italy, Japan, Republic of Korea (KOICA), Lichtenstein, Mauritius, Monaco, Norway, Private Donors, Republic of Korea, UN Central Emergency Response Fund (CERF), United Kingdom (FCDO), USAID (Bureau for Humanitarian Assistance) and Switzerland.

WFP Regular Programmes

School Feeding

WFP Madagascar submitted proposal for a five-year project (September 2022 to June 2027) for this year's McGovern Dole 27.5 million USDA funding opportunity.

Nutrition – Development

Schoolchildren of 13 schools in Manandriana and Fieferana localities had started enjoying locally grown fortified rice in their school meal rations, as part of the Tambatra project activities. This local transformation of rice is a new concept in Madagascar - and with Malagasy people as the second biggest rice consumer in Africa, this is an important step in addressing malnutrition in the country. As part of its support, WFP provided equipment to an artisanal rice mill to enable the fortification of rice kernels.

A Japanese cooperation agency (JICA) delegation visited localities of the drought-affected Amboasary district, where the Miaro approach is implemented. This Japanese-funded project aims to prevent chronic malnutrition. The main activities of the Miaro approach - distribution of specialised nutritious foods, sensitisation on essential practices, community and school gardens - were shown to the delegation which also met with communities and local partners.

Furthermore, a training of trainers on social and behaviour change communication (SBCC) was held to enable the partners of the Miaro approach to better promote nutrition sensitive behaviors.

Resilience

WFP has crafted its post-lean season intervention plan to further support drought-stricken people in southern Madagascar. Sixty-six localities of seven districts will benefit from this support. Given the vulnerability of the population, early recovery activities have been designed to meet communities' immediate needs to better empower them to restore their assets as well as the environmental capital.

Along with the Malagasy Minister of Agriculture and Livestock, WFP is working on enhancing the cassava processing project. An assessment will be led to identify the main future orientations. Implemented by WFP in the past few years, this project can become a key element to support the resilience of drought-affected population in southern Madagascar.

Capacity Strengthening Support to the Government

WFP is providing connectivity to the BNGRC operational center in Mananjary and equipment (mobile VSATs, Sat phones) to support areas not covered by mobile connectivity.

Funding Challenges (other than the emergency response)

WFP operations face critical funding shortfalls. The **school meals** programme faces a funding shortfall of **USD 11.6 million** for the next school year (Oct22 – July 23). For **nutritional interventions**, funding shortfalls stand at **USD 6.7 million** up until April 2023. For the implementation of **resilience** activities, WFP faces a funding shortfall of **USD 13.2 million** from May 2022 to April 2023. Finally, WFP urgently requires **USD 900,000** for its **emergency and response preparedness activities** (May 2022 – April 2023)

COVID-19 update

Despite a rise in COVID-19 cases since early December, WFP's programmes and activities continue to be implemented as planned. To date, the country has reported 64,152 cases of COVID-19 and 1,391 related deaths.