



World Food Programme

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WFP Madagascar Country Brief June 2022



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.

Development prospects in Madagascar continue to be hampered by the country's low growth potential and exposure to frequent, deep, and persistent crises, according to the [World Bank's latest economic update on Madagascar](#). Growth averaged 3.5 percent in the five years leading up to the pandemic and was followed by a recession in 2020 that was about 3 times deeper than in the rest of Sub-Saharan Africa. Activity had started to recover in 2021 but was disrupted again in 2022 by a third wave of the COVID-19 pandemic, a series of extreme weather events and the fallout from the conflict in Ukraine.

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

721,428 beneficiaries reached with in-kind food assistance and 177,035 beneficiaries through cash transfers under WFP's drought response in southern Madagascar **in June 2022**

206,815 people affected by cyclones reached through food and cash-based assistance

US\$ 81.0 million required until April 2023 for the drought emergency response and US\$ 17.6 million required for the cyclone emergency response.

Operational Updates – Emergency Responses

Emergency Overview and Response

In June, WFP delivered life-saving assistance (through general food distribution and cash transfers) to 898,463 people in the southern districts.

During the 2021-2022 lean season, 158,070 children benefited from moderate acute malnutrition treatment. Furthermore, 157,282 children aged 6 to 59 months and 58,158 pregnant and lactating women (PLW) were supported with nutritional supplements for the prevention of acute malnutrition, coupled with general food distribution.

In southern Madagascar, from April to August 2022, 33% of the population in the Grand Sud remains highly food insecure (IPC 3+), including 122,000 people in IPC 4 (Emergency), and 925,000 in IPC 3 (Crisis).

WFP hence plans to continue to assist 600,000 of the most vulnerable during the post-lean season period, from July to October 2022, as they remain vulnerable with a harvest projected to be 63% lower than average.

Cyclone Season Overview and Response

At least 470,000 people are in urgent need of food assistance in the southeastern regions after the passage of Batsirai and Emnati cyclones.

As of end of June, WFP has assisted over 206,815 people through its distributions.

WFP has increased the number of targeted beneficiaries to include additional beneficiaries in rural, hard-to-reach areas and now plans to assist 144,944 people each month for three months starting from August.

UN Humanitarian Air Service (UNHAS)

UNHAS transported 385 passengers and 595 kg of cargo from 32 organisations (17 NGOs, 10 UN agencies and 3 diplomatic missions / donors and 2 Red Cross society).

In June 2022, UNHAS reached 10 destinations and continued to deliver humanitarian cargo to the hard-to-reach locations in the southern and south-eastern regions of Madagascar.

UNHAS also performed five special flights to enable three UN agencies and one NGO to carry out missions to the south and one medical evacuation for humanitarian staff.

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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) June – November 2022
364.3 million	193.1 million	67.9 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.

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Photo: WFP staff and local communities in a Miaro's community garden. WFP/ Tsiory Andriantsoarana

WFP Regular Programmes

School Feeding

To improve school feeding programme efficiency, WFP Madagascar's monitoring and evaluation staff and school feeding unit facilitated a two-day monitoring and evaluation workshop for the Ministry of Education. The aim was to define measures to improve the monitoring and evaluation of the school feeding programme and the plan for the coming school year.

Nutrition – Development

A round-table discussion on rice fortification hosted by WFP and the Sun Business Network (SBN) was held in June and was attended by members of the private sector and Malagasy Government partners. The discussion highlighted the experience acquired in artisanal rice fortification from the Tambatra project as well as the advantages of furthering the development of rice fortification for the country. The needs of an enabling environment, such as legislative frameworks, better data on micronutrient deficiencies, infrastructure, strengthening of local technical capacities and financial resources, were also pointed out. The recommendations outlined the need to discuss further with rice providers and producers, the assessment of already existing fortification activities and an integrated approach between SBN strategy, the national food fortification strategy (SNFoA) and the SUN research platform's (MIKASA) activities.

In June, WFP welcomed two donors to the Miaro approach sites: a Japan International Cooperation Agency (JICA) delegation in Amboasary district and the French Ambassador in Ampanihy district. The major achievements of this approach were shown to the delegations: community gardens enabling the production of various nutritious vegetables, distribution of rations coupled with social behaviour change communication promoting healthy eating habits as well as integration with other WFP activities such as school feeding and treatment of moderate acute malnutrition.

Resilience

A range of assessments for strategic planning purposes took place in June: assessment of the cassava value chain was led by WFP and the Ministry of Agriculture and Livestock, discussion with the local communities to prioritize households which will benefit from food-for-assets assistance in 41 localities/communes, and a joint mission to identify intervention zones by the staff of the Resident Coordinator's Office, WFP, FAO, UNICEF, IFAD/DEFIS, UNESCO, UNFPA, IOM, UNDP.

Capacity Strengthening Support to the Government

WFP is providing connectivity to BNGRC (*Bureau National de Gestion des Risques et des Catastrophes*) operational centre in Mananjary and equipment (mobile VSATs, Sat phones) to support them in 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 17.6 million for the next school year (October 2022 – July 2023). For nutritional interventions, funding shortfalls stand at USD 2.4 million up until April 2023. For the implementation of resilience activities, WFP faces a funding shortfall of USD 3.7 million. Finally, WFP urgently requires USD 1.0 million for its emergency and response preparedness activities.

COVID-19 update

Despite a period of rise in COVID-19 cases in early December, WFP's programmes and activities continue to be implemented as planned. To date, the country has reported 66,491 cases of COVID-19 and 1,408 related deaths.