



World Food Programme

SAVING
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LIVES

WFP Madagascar Country Brief June 2023



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 173 out of 191 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 rate of acute malnutrition is 6 percent, and the rate of chronic malnutrition is 42 percent, placing Madagascar as the 10th country worst 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 three 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**

2021 Human Development Index: **173 out of 191 countries**

Income Level: **Low**

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

In Numbers

1,759 mt of food assistance distributed

US\$ 264,502 cash-based transfers

US\$ 132 m next six months (July 2023 to December 2023)

402,774 people assisted in June 2023

Saving Lives

The Integrated Food Security Phase Classification (IPC) results (July 2023) indicate that over 1 million people in South and Southeast regions are still in IPC 3+, rising to 1.72 million during the next lean season. However, we observe a slight improvement in the Great South and worsening situation in the South-east with nine districts in phase 3 due to the two consecutive cyclones. The districts of Befotaka, Ikongo and Nosy Varika are currently the most affected, where at least 25% of the population is already in 'crisis' or 'emergency' levels of food insecurity. In addition, the level of vulnerability to food insecurity overall has deteriorated sharply with more than 62% prevalence in Vagaindrano, 65% in Ikongo, and more than 70% in Befotaka.

The post lean season period has showed improvements compared to last year; however, pockets of high food insecurity and malnutrition rates persist. WFP has consequently continued to assist a few communes in Anosy and Androy regions through in-kind distributions, reaching 131,650 people with 727.8 metric tonnes of food.

The post-cyclonic interventions through in-kind assistance in the Great South-East continue to be possible thanks to African Development Bank (AfDB) funding. Over 400,000 people will be assisted in July and August. Utilizing remaining funds, cash-based transfers for vulnerable populations will continue till early September.

The United Nations Humanitarian Air Service (UNHAS) transported 220 passengers and 1,086 kg of cargo for 30 organisations in June. A user group meeting was held to discuss the UNHAS flight schedule and the different operational procedures.

UNHAS performed 2 satisfaction surveys:

- For passengers the satisfaction rate was of 99%.
- For Heads of partner organisations, the satisfaction rate was 100%.

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Twitter: [@PAM Madagascar](#)

Photo: School children having their meal at the Beabo public school (Ambovombe). The vegetables and cassava grown in the garden are used to make meals for the Home-Grown School Meals programme (HGSM) implemented at the Beabo public school (Ambovombe). WFP/Giulio d'Adamo

Country Strategic Plan (2019-2023)

Total Requirement (in USD)	Allocated Contributions (in USD)	Six Month Net Funding Requirements (in USD)
628 m	365 m	132 m

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

The WFP school feeding programme provided hot meals for a total of 318,586 people in 982 schools in June. The month was marked by the closure of the school year and the preparation for the new academic year, scheduled to begin early September. WFP teams conducted an inventory of food stocks and closed cash accounts in the 982 schools covered by the school feeding programme. WFP continued to work on the administrative and logistical preparation for the National Forum on School Feeding in Madagascar and the preparation for the joint WFP/MEN (Ministry of Education) annual review of the school feeding programme.

In June, 16,436 pregnant and breastfeeding women and children received nutrition supplementation and sensitization to good practices as part of the Miaro project. WFP's nutrition team also worked towards greater engagement with local producers of specialized nutritious foods (SNF) and prepared the establishment of processing units for women's groups in the South-East, Anosy and Androy. Separately, WFP teams conducted a Standardized Monitoring and Assessment of Relief and Transitions (SMART) survey to assess the nutrition situation in three municipalities of the Great South (Sihanamaro in Ambovombe, Itampolo in Ampanihy, Tsivory in Amboasary) as part of the joint UNICEF/WFP project funded by KfW.

WFP and the Ministry of Digital Development, Digital Transformation, Posts, and Telecommunications conducted a joint visit of the Rapid Rural Transformation (RRT) programme to identify the new site for RRT and joint actions to digitally connect remote communities.

Cash for Assets activities continued and resulted in the reforestation of 90,231 young plants and the rehabilitation of 15 km of small, irrigated perimeters in the Betroka district. In Bekily, 12 km of rural roads were rehabilitated, along with vegetable cultivation in 11 sites, including cactus cultivation. In Betioky, the secondary canal of Tameantsoa was rehabilitated. As part of the Cash for Assets activities in Bekily and Betioky, 407,280,000 Ariary was transferred to 5,153 households.

As part of its South-South and Triangular Cooperation (SSTC) approach, WFP supported the Malagasy Government via the BNGRC (*Bureau National de Gestion des Risques et des Catastrophes*) by hosting a regional online workshop to reinforce the collaboration between Madagascar and Malawi on emergency preparedness and response. The workshop gathered the main stakeholders and key humanitarian actors from both countries to exchange good practices and lessons learnt, identifying challenges to support future initiatives and exploring opportunities to expand the relationship with other countries in the Indian Ocean.

Funding Challenges

WFP operations face critical net funding requirements that stand at USD 119.4 million for emergency response, USD 5.9 million for school meals assistance, USD 2.8 million for nutrition, USD 2.5 million for resilience, and USD 1.4 million for emergency preparedness.

Donors (2022 and 2023)

African Development Bank, Canada, France, Germany, Japan, Republic of Korea (KOICA), Lichtenstein, Monaco, Netherlands, Norway, Private Donors, Republic of Korea, South Africa, Sweden, Switzerland, UN Central Emergency Response Fund (CERF), United Kingdom (FCDO), USAID (Bureau for Humanitarian Assistance)