



World Food Programme

SAVING LIVES  
CHANGING LIVES

# WFP Madagascar Country Brief November 2023



## Operational Context

Madagascar is a low-income country with an estimated population of 29 million. With a gross domestic product per capita of USD 505 in 2022, 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 8 percent and the rate of chronic malnutrition is 40 percent, placing Madagascar as the 10<sup>th</sup> 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: **29 million**

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

Income Level: **Low**

Chronic malnutrition: **40% of children aged 6–59 months**

## In Numbers

**1,626 mt** of food assistance distributed

**US\$ 238,737** cash-based transfers

**US\$ 123M net funding requirement** next six months (December 2023 to May 2024)

**591,269 people assisted in November 2023**, of which 546,399 with food assistance and 44,870 through cash-based transfers.

## Saving lives

### Drought and Cyclone Response

As part of the drought response, WFP started a targeting exercise in districts which are projected to face high levels of food insecurity, meaning crisis level (Integrated Food Security Phase Classification IPC 3) and above, in southern Madagascar. As a result of household visits and community validation of beneficiary lists, WFP will target 305,000 people with in-kind assistance and 240,000 people with cash-based assistance due to funding constraints. As of November, WFP started to provide in-kind assistance to some of these targeted households, and distributions will continue in December.

In November, WFP started to provide cash-based assistance to 147,000 cyclone-affected people in the four southeastern districts of Nosy Varika, Midongy, Befotaka and Ikongo.

### UN Humanitarian Air Service (UNHAS)

UNHAS supported **24 organisations** in November by transporting **162 aid workers** and **545 kg of light cargo** for nine destinations in the south and southeastern Madagascar. The **UN Resident Coordinator** shared an appeal with the Humanitarian Country Team (HCT) to support UNHAS with **USD 3.4 million to sustain its operations** across the year and continue providing uninterrupted access to workers implementing projects in hard-to-reach locations.

## Changing lives

### School Feeding

In November, WFP continued to assist 328,000 children with school meals as part of its Home-Grown School Feeding Programme which aims to support also farmers providing the school canteens with fresh products. WFP also continued to hold capacity-building sessions for local stakeholders in schools.

### Nutrition

In November, WFP assisted 55,822 children and pregnant and breastfeeding women with malnutrition prevention and

**Photo:** Lala and Joeline live in Berano, in the Amboasary district of southern Madagascar. They are participating in WFP's malnutrition prevention programme, MIARO. Community gardens are one component of MIARO, which promotes food diversification and income generation for women. Lala and Joeline have had a good beetroot harvest. WFP/DDC

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## Country Strategic Plan (2019-2023)

Total Requirement (in USD)	Allocated Contributions (in USD)	Six Month Net Funding Requirements (in USD)
<b>628.3 million</b>	<b>380 million</b>	<b>123 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 (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)

treatment. WFP began scaling up lean season wasting prevention activities in food insecure areas. These activities were also extended to the southeast to support Government's preparedness during the cyclone season.

Madagascar's efforts to scale up wasting prevention were presented at the WFP Executive Board side event on wasting management. WFP also presented its country-level efforts to implement joint large-scale wasting prevention activities to the "Friends of WFP Nutrition," a group led by the Executive Board.

WFP participated in the organisation of the General Assembly of the National Alliance for Food Fortification, underlining its commitment to strengthening the sector in Madagascar, together with the private sector, UN agencies and other development partners.

## Resilience

As part of its climate risk insurance efforts, WFP Madagascar signed and purchased two macro-level drought and cyclone insurance policies in partnership with the Government under the African Risk Capacity (ARC) Group Replica programme.

## Resource Outlook

WFP operations in Madagascar face critical funding shortfalls. To sustain all activities of the CSP during the lean season **between December 2023 and May 2024**, WFP Madagascar urgently requires **USD 123 million**.

The **emergency response** is critically underfunded, with a **shortfall of USD 65.3 million** between December 2023 and May 2024 to continue the provision of life-saving unconditional food assistance. Nutrition programmes aimed at preventing and treating acute malnutrition urgently require USD 2.2 million, while resilience activities that support early recovery of shock-affected populations as well as longer-term resilience have a funding shortfall of over USD 7.4 million. School feeding activities to provide hot meals to primary school children in districts classified as IPC 3 have a funding gap of USD 5.8 million. For emergency preparedness, the shortfall is USD 100,000.

## "WFP's solar-powered hub is helping Ella turn her dream into reality"

Ella aspires to become the future Minister of Finance in Madagascar. With reliable internet from WFP's solar-powered hub, she believes her dreams will turn into reality. WFP's innovative Rapid Rural Transformation is helping shaping lives like Ella's. To watch Ella's full story, click [here](#).

