



World Food Programme

SAVING LIVES
CHANGING LIVES

WFP Madagascar

Country Brief

September 2024



Operational Context

Madagascar is a low-income country facing endemic poverty, climate and economic shocks. In 2022, 75.2 percent of the national population was categorized as poor according to the [World Bank's Madagascar Poverty Assessment Report \(2024\)](#). For most of the 80 percent of the population whose main activity is agriculture, generating enough income to exit poverty is beyond their reach, due to limited market access and lagging agricultural productivity.

Climate change has exacerbated Madagascar's vulnerability to weather shocks, including cyclones, tropical storms and droughts. In less than 2 years, Madagascar has been hit by several cyclones. Tropical Cyclone Gamane is the latest weather event to have affected the country. Due to the Cyclone Gamane and the El Niño phenomenon impacts, according to the latest IPC analysis, 1.2 million people dependent on income from agricultural activities in 36 districts may be affected by high acute food insecurity between May and September 2024.

In this context, the United Nations World Food Programme (WFP) aims to promote an integrated, shock-responsive social protection system to ensure 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 women, adolescent girls and children. Moreover, WFP aims to help build the resilience of smallholder households and ensure that interventions to address both chronic and acute needs are supported by enhanced capacities and resources for emergency preparedness and response.



Population : 30.3 million

2022 HDI : 177/193 countries

Income level : Low

Chronic malnutrition : 39.8% children aged 6-59 months

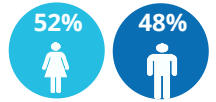
In Numbers

480 MT* of food assistance distributed

USD 375,000* in cash transfers distributed

USD 42 million six-month net funding requirements (October 2024 – March 2025)

667,000 people* assisted in September 2024



Emergency Response

Cyclone Gamane response: The scale-up of post-Gamane interventions in the North will continue in October 2024. Preparations for targeting commenced in September, with a planned caseload of 70,060 individuals across 18 communes in the districts of Sambava and Vohémar.

Lean season response: In the South and South-East of Madagascar, preparations for lean season interventions are underway. Contracting process with cooperating partners was ongoing, while the targeting exercises will continue in preparation for a planned first distribution in October 2024, aiming to reach over 614,000 people.

MoU between National Bureau for Disaster Risk Management (BNGRC) and WFP: In September, WFP signed a new MoU with the BNGRC. This agreement, aligned with the new WFP Country Strategic Plan (2024-2028) outlines potential areas of collaboration, primarily focusing on strengthening capacity in emergency preparedness and anticipatory actions.

UN Humanitarian Air Services (UNHAS)

In September, UNHAS transported 286 passengers and 0.6 metric tons (MT) of cargo across 9 destinations, on behalf of 29 organizations. In addition to its regular services, UNHAS also carried out three special flights for the World Bank and WFP. On 19 September, the UNHAS management committee approved key measures, including biennial user registration reviews, advancing the drone transport pilot, authorizing infant transport under safety regulations, and evaluating the need for a helicopter in the southeast. Moreover, the operational team completed initial training sessions focused on Dangerous Goods and Human Factors, reinforcing their capacity to manage safety-sensitive tasks.

Nutrition

Lean season preparation: In September, WFP began preparations for the lean season support. Between October 2024 and April 2025, in areas facing high levels of food insecurity, WFP will provide an in-kind top up to the most vulnerable groups, through the General Food Assistance. During this period, WFP aims to assist 36,864 children and 30,718 pregnant and breastfeeding women and girls (PBWG).

In areas facing medium levels of food insecurity, WFP also plans to provide an integrated package to prevent all forms of malnutrition, to PBWG and children under two across 23 communes in 5 districts. This initiative will reach approximately 26,700 PBWG and 37,200 children, providing them with monthly nutritional supplementation through either in-kind or cash transfers, support for diverse homestead food production, and social behavior change communication interventions.

Contacts: Mamadou.Mbaye@wfp.org

Further information: www.wfp.org/countries/Madagascar

Facebook: [Programme Alimentaire Mondial Madagascar](#)

X: [@PAM Madagascar](#)

Photo credit: @WFP/Jerry ANDRIANAIVOARIVONY, Steam cooking in Anjamahavelo.

Madagascar Country Strategic Plan 2024-2028

Total requirement (in USD)	Allocated contributions (in USD)	(in)	Six-month net funding requirements (in USD)
659.2 million	167.3 million		42 million

Strategic Result 1: Access to food

Strategic Outcome 1: People affected by seasonal or other shocks are prepared and able to meet their immediate food and nutrition needs throughout the year.

Focus area: Crisis response

Activities:

- Unconditional resources transfers, food or cash
- Prevention of acute malnutrition
- Treatment of moderate acute malnutrition
- Nutritional support to tuberculosis patients
- Food assistance for assets

Strategic Result 2: End malnutrition

Strategic Outcome 2: By 2030, targeted groups at risk, especially young children and pregnant and breastfeeding women and girls, are part of the national social protection scheme and have improved nutrition and education outcomes.

Focus area: Root causes

Activities:

- Malnutrition prevention
- School canteens including home-grown school feeding
- Food and cash-based assistance to people living with HIV, tuberculosis patients, older persons and persons with disabilities

Strategic Result 3: Sustainable food systems

Strategic Outcome 3: By 2030, targeted communities benefit from productive, inclusive, sustainable food systems that contribute to improved food diversity, livelihoods and resilience to shocks, in particular climate and economic shocks.

Focus area: Resilience building

Activities:

- Preparedness
- Risk financing
- Digital financial inclusion
- Rapid Rural Transformation model
- Sustainable value chains
- Market access

Strategic Result 4: Capacity Strengthening

Strategic Outcome 4: By 2030, the Government and national stakeholders will have enhanced capacity to manage equitable and inclusive food and nutrition programmes, along with systems for social protection, emergency preparedness and early response.

Focus area: Resilience building

Activities:

- Enhanced emergency preparedness and response capacity
- Coordination for emergency preparedness and response
- Strengthening social protection and inclusion
- School feeding operational and institutional capacity strengthening
- Enhancing nutrition capacity
- Rural transformation and women's economic empowerment
- Food fortification and private sector engagement
- South-South and triangular cooperation

Strategic Result 5: Enhance Global Partnerships.

Strategic Outcome 5: Government, humanitarian and development actors have improved access to mandated and on-demand services and innovative solutions that enable the delivery of timely and cost-efficient assistance.

Focus area: Crisis response

Activities:

- Logistics and coordination services
- Telecommunications services
- Aviation and air operations services

A strong focus will also be placed on building beneficiary capacity to process and preserve locally produced foods.

WHO wasting guidelines pilot: WFP and UNICEF have continued engaging with the Ministry of Health and regional health services on the preparation of a transition plan to implement new WHO guidelines on wasting management.

School Feeding

2024-2025 school year: The 2024-2025 school year began on 9 September, with WFP supporting 390,000 children across 1,245 schools in 23 districts.

Schools benefiting from the Home-Grown School Feeding model have nearly doubled to 764, reaching 246,100 beneficiaries, thanks to the World Bank's funding for the Madagascar Food Systems Resilience Project (FSRP).

Moreover, WFP is testing new tools for nutritional education targeting school-aged children.

World Bank missions: In September, two missions were organized in the Atsimo Andrefana region to monitor the Mionjo and FSRP projects, funded by the World Bank. Delegations included staff from the World Bank, representatives from several Malagasy ministries, the regional Directorate for National Education the project management unit, and external agencies. Both missions included visits to World Bank-funded school canteens, consultations with school canteen staff and farmers' organisations supplying the canteens, as well as meetings with local authorities. Meetings concluded with recommendations on how to optimize delivery and enhance program performance.

Resilience

Clean cooking: In September, as schools reopened for the first quarter of the school year, WFP successfully launched clean cooking technologies in 23 schools across southern Madagascar (Atsimo-Andrefana, Androy and Anosy). 18 schools received improved biomass cooking solutions, while 5 were equipped with electric cooking technologies connected to solar systems, including Rapid Rural Transformation solar hubs. A study is currently underway to assess the effectiveness of these technologies and provide recommendations to scale up the initiative to more schools.

Drought anticipation plans: WFP, in collaboration with UNICEF and the National Bureau for Disaster Risk Management (BNGRC), organized two workshops to develop a drought anticipation plan for Anosy and Androy regions. The first workshop took place in Fianarantsoa during the week of 9 September to develop the plan's methodology. It brought together the Health, SAMS, WASH, Nutrition, Protection and Education sectors. The second workshop was held in Fort-Dauphin during the week of 16 September to develop the drought anticipation plans based on the methodology agreed upon in the first workshop. These workshops focused on defining thresholds for each sector, linking thresholds to each activity, identifying priority areas and setting up a timeline for implementation.

Resource Outlook

USD 42 million are urgently required for WFP Madagascar to sustain all activities of the Country Strategic Plan between October 2024 and March 2025.

Donors

Canada, China, ECHO, France, Germany, Madagascar, Norway, Private Donors, Republic of Korea, Türkiye, UN Central Emergency Response Fund (CERF), USAID Bureau for Humanitarian Assistance (USAID BHA) *(in alphabetical order)*

** All assistance figures in this report are an initial estimate and are subject to change upon final verification.*