



World Food Programme

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LIVES

# WFP Madagascar

## Country Brief

May 2025



### Operational Context

Madagascar is a low-income country facing endemic poverty, climate and economic shocks. In 2024, 80 percent of the national population lived below the international poverty line, according to the [World Bank's Macro Poverty Outlook \(2025\)](#). 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. According to the latest IPC analysis, 1.93 million people faced high levels of acute food insecurity (IPC Phase 3 and above) between January and April 2025, particularly in the Grand Sud and Grand Sud-Est.

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 : **31.2 million**

2023-24 HDI : **177/193 countries**

Income level : **Low**

Chronic malnutrition : **38.6%**  
children aged 6-59 months

## In Numbers

**1,535 MT\*** of food assistance distributed

**USD 431,659\*** in cash transfers distributed

**USD 49.4 million** six-month net funding requirements  
(June – November 2025)

**324,369 people\*** assisted in May 2025 with in-kind assistance and cash-based transfers

### Emergency Response

**Anticipatory actions:** WFP distributed anticipatory cash (120,000 ariary per household) and disseminated drought-related early warning messages to vulnerable and climate-affected people in the Tsihombe District. In addition, WFP held a meeting with the National Office for Risk and Disaster Management (BNGRC) to discuss joint priorities for anticipatory action, including cross-cutting themes such as gender, protection and inclusion. Both parties agreed to enhance collaboration on generating and disseminating evidence on anticipatory actions.

**Capacity strengthening:** WFP handed over two 4x4 vehicles and 10 radios to the BNGRC, supporting its decentralization efforts.

### UN Humanitarian Air Services (UNHAS)

In May 2025, UNHAS transported 276 passengers and 831 kg of humanitarian cargo, serving nine regular destinations and supporting 31 organizations. On 31 May and 1 June, UNHAS Madagascar participated in the air show organized by the Malagasy Air Force in celebration of its 65th anniversary. The event served as an opportunity to showcase UNHAS operations and emphasize its critical role in facilitating humanitarian access to remote areas across Madagascar. On 28 May, UNHAS convened a User Group Meeting to present recent operational updates, gather partners' forecasts for the second half of the year, and discuss priorities and adjustments to the flight schedule.

### Nutrition

**Food processing units:** The construction of two community food processing units, located in Vohilava (Farafangana district) and in Beabo (Ambovombe district), was finalized on 7 May. A third unit, located in Ifotaka (Amboasary district), is nearing completion. Installation of technical equipment will follow the completion of civil works. Once operational, these units will enable smallholder farmers to produce improved nutritious products, based on recipes developed by the Mikasa platform. On 15 May, the WFP Director and Country Representative in Madagascar visited the Vohilava and Beabo units to assess progress on the ground.

**WHO wasting prevention guidelines:** On 16 May, WFP and the Ministry of Health validated the training curriculum on the prevention and management of acute malnutrition in children and pregnant and breastfeeding women (PBWG). The perspective is the organization of cascade training sessions for health workers and community actors for June

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**Facebook:** [Programme Alimentaire Mondial Madagascar](#)

**X:** [@PAM Madagascar](#)

*Photo credit: @WFP. Farmer Field School site in Tsirov.*

Madagascar Country Strategic Plan 2024-2028



Total requirement (in USD)	Allocated contributions (in USD)	Six-month net funding requirements (in USD)
659.2 million	210.1 million	49.4 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

School Feeding

**Cash transfers to schools:** Cash-transfers were extended to schools enrolled in the home-grown school feeding programme in the Grand Sud, while a second round of transfers was completed for schools in the Highlands. 365 schools received the necessary funds to purchase fresh, locally sourced products.

**HGSF workshop:** From 18-24 May, WFP, the regional focal points for the FSRP project, and the regional public authorities on education, sustainable development and nutrition gathered for a workshop on the implementation of home-grown school feeding in Itasy and Vakinankaratra regions. The workshop aimed to strengthen synergies, promote local ownership and enhance the programme's long-term sustainability.

**School Connect:** On 29-30 May, representatives from WFP and the Ministry of National Education participated in a training session on the *School Connect* tool, which centralizes data related to school feeding programme management—including schools, food distribution, beneficiaries, and other key indicators. The training was led by a staff member from WFP's School Connect Team at headquarters. Participants will in turn train decentralized technical teams in 50 schools across five districts, selected for the pilot phase of *School Connect*, scheduled to launch in early June.

Resilience

**KfW field visit:** From 8-16 May 2025, a delegation of the German Development bank KfW visited Madagascar to monitor progress under the joint WFP-UNICEF project "*Building Resilience for Food and Nutrition Security in Madagascar*", funded by Germany. The mission focused on three target communes in the Anosy and Androy regions, each with a specific thematic emphasis. In Sihanamaro, the delegation reviewed efforts to improve water access, strengthen local governance, and enhance cross-sectoral coordination, including visits to multi-use water points and rehabilitated ponds. In Tsivory, the focus was on resilience and livelihoods, with site visits to community gardens, Farmer Field Schools, and agroecological restoration areas. In Ifotaka, the team assessed integrated nutrition and social protection interventions, including FARNE centers, local food processing units, and social service hubs. The mission emphasized the integration of project activities into local development planning and the reinforcement of community-based systems. It also provided an opportunity to deepen strategic dialogue with local authorities and partners.

Resource Outlook

**USD 49.4 million** is urgently required for WFP Madagascar to sustain all activities of the Country Strategic Plan between June and November 2025.

Donors

ECHO, Germany, INTPA, Japan, Madagascar, Norway, Private Donors, Republic of Korea, Saudi Arabia, 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.