



World Food Programme

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WFP Madagascar

Country Brief

October 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 HDI : 183/193 countries

Income level : Low

Chronic malnutrition : 38.6%
children aged 6-59 months

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In Numbers

6,752 MT* of commodities distributed and handed over to cooperating partners for lean season response

USD 106,893* of cash assistance distributed to schools as part of the school feeding programme

USD 52.2 million six-month net funding requirements (November 2025 – April 2026)

413,779 people* assisted in October 2025 with cash-based and in-kind assistance

Emergency Response

- **Emergency preparedness and anticipatory actions:** The Climatic Perspectives Forum (8 October) brought together practitioners and users of climate services to discuss seasonal forecasts and explore their implications for early action. This was followed by the Contingency Planning Workshop (16–17 October), which focused on strengthening operational readiness ahead of the upcoming cyclone season. Later in the month, the Workshop on Gender, Protection, and Inclusion in Early Action (29–30 October), organized with the Technical Working Group on Anticipatory Action, worked on developing solutions to ensure anticipatory actions are both accessible and equitable. Particular attention was given to inclusive communication strategies and cash distribution mechanisms.
- **Emergency lean season response:** In October, WFP launched the emergency lean season response targeting 560,000 people per month. Emergency food assistance is provided alongside malnutrition prevention activities for children under 2 years and pregnant and breastfeeding women and girls. Although the response is designed to cover the entire lean season from October through March, current resources allow WFP to support vulnerable populations only until January 2026.

UN Humanitarian Air Services (UNHAS)

- In October, UNHAS completed the rehabilitation of the Ambovombe runway to address surface degradation and ensure continued compliance with safety standards. On 24 October, the Steering Committee commended UNHAS for the efficiency measures introduced to sustain operations and highlighted the importance of maintaining this essential service during the upcoming cyclone season (December/January). Throughout the month, UNHAS transported 112 passengers and delivered 2,097 kilograms of cargo, supporting the work of 22 partner organizations. Responding to sustained demand, a new route to Farafangana was launched, enhancing connectivity for humanitarian actors in southeastern Madagascar.

School Feeding

- **Impact evaluation results:** WFP is currently implementing the Home-Grown School Feeding programme under the Government's Food System Resilience Programme (FSRP) funded by the World Bank. As part of this project, WFP and the World Bank are conducting an impact evaluation to assess the benefits of the programme. Preliminary results were presented in October and highlighted the positive impact of the school feeding program on educational indicators, particularly in terms of attendance, academic performance, and reduction of malnutrition.

WFP Country Strategy

Madagascar Country Strategic Plan 2024-2028



Total requirement (in USD)	Allocated contributions (in USD)	Six-month net funding requirements (in USD)
659.2 million	213 million	52.2 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

Nutrition

- **Community-based nutrition:** In October, efforts continued to strengthen community-based management of Moderate Acute Malnutrition (MAM) through the Learning and Nutritional Recovery Homes (FARNE). A total of 680 children received nutritious porridge or hot meals for 18 consecutive days. These meals were prepared by mothers using locally available products such as corn flour, beans, rice, cowpea, peanut, and cassava. Beyond nutrition, children also took part in sessions designed to enhance psychomotor development, led by “model mothers.” Currently, 51 FARNE sites are operational across five districts, achieving a strong child recovery rate of 70 to 77 percent—well within international standards. To further support these efforts, WFP has developed and pre-tested a catalogue of local recipes and locally made toys for children aged 6–59 months. This resource helps the FARNE management committees in both meal preparation and the delivery of Early Childhood Development (ECD) sessions.

Resilience

- **Smallholder farmer Access to Markets Support:** As part of the government-led Food System Resilience Program (FSRP) funded by the World Bank, WFP is supporting 250 farmers’ organizations to improve their products and access markets, such as supplying school canteens under the Home-Grown School Feeding model. At the same time, WFP is assisting these farmer organizations to become formal food suppliers, including for WFP activities, to promote inclusive economic growth and in alignment with WFP’s commitment to local food sourcing and sustainable food systems. In October, WFP launched a call for expressions of interest to update its list of local food suppliers and is working with the 250 farmers’ organizations to ensure they are well prepared to participate.
- **Partnership with ILO:** Following an agreement signed between WFP and ILO Madagascar; the two agencies are collaborating on a series of activities to develop infrastructure to strengthen resilience of local populations. The following works are currently underway: Construction of 5 agro-processing units, establishment of 11 storage warehouses for farmer associations, development of 5 irrigated perimeters to enhance agricultural productivity in areas affected by water scarcity, completion of 5 feasibility studies for hydro-agricultural infrastructure

Resource Outlook

- WFP Madagascar urgently requires **USD 52.2 million** to sustain all activities under its Country Strategic Plan between October 2025 and March 2026. Due to funding shortages, the Country Office will be unable to provide cash-based transfers for emergency activities, starting in October 2025. Additionally, there are significant funding gaps affecting the UNHAS and TEC activities.

Donors

EU ECHO, EU INTPA, France, Germany, Japan, Madagascar, Norway, Private Donors, Republic of Korea, Saudi Arabia, United States of America (in alphabetical order)

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