



WFP Madagascar Country Brief

WFP Assistance

WFP in Madagascar implements two main programmes: the Country Programme (development) and the Protracted Relief and Recovery Operation (PRRO).

Country Programme	Total Requirements (in USD)	Total Received (in USD)	6 Month Net Funding Requirements (in USD)*
CP 200733 (Mar. 2015- Dec. 2019)	59.4 m	25.4 m (43%)	0.7 m (1%)

*September 2017 – January 2018

The Country Programme (CP) is implemented in the southern areas of Madagascar and in vulnerable urban areas of Antananarivo, Tamatave (east) and Tulear (south-west). The CP has three components: school feeding to encourage access to primary education; nutrition support to vulnerable groups; and enhancing local farmers' access to agricultural markets.

School feeding programme: WFP supports school children in the South and in urban areas of Antananarivo, Tamatave and Tulear. This programme aims to improve children's access to education in food insecure areas with low educational indicators. In the South, the school feeding programme acts as a safety net, transferring income in the form of food to communities and helping to reduce the adoption of negative coping strategies, such as taking children out of school during the lean season. During the period of school vacations, (July 2017) a stock inventory exercise was conducted in all WFP-supported schools.

Nutrition: Supporting the National Office for Nutrition (ONN), WFP jointly with FAO, UNFPA, and WHO aims to implement a maternal health and nutrition project in Amboasary and Ampanihy districts of southern Madagascar, providing supplementary feeding for the prevention of stunting to 102,000 children under two and pregnant/lactating women. For the treatment of moderate acute malnutrition, WFP in support to the national community nutrition programme provides supplementary feeding to 28,476 children under five and pregnant and lactating women in the districts of Tsihombe, Beloha, Bekily and Ambovombe.

Support to market access: Based on the "Purchase for Progress initiative" (P4P), this programme supports farmers' access to agricultural markets by purchasing their surplus production. Farmers' organizations receive technical assistance from the International Fund for Agricultural Development (IFAD) and are provided with high quality and drought-resistant seeds by FAO. In the south, 4,000 farmers benefit from P4P.

Main Photo Credit: WFP/Volana Rarivonon
Caption: Nicole, one of the beneficiaries of the school feeding programme received her primary education certificate from Ankileisoka elementary school, Amboasary district.

Highlights

- WFP is shifting the focus of its operations towards resilience strengthening. 14 priority communes have been identified for Food Assistance for Assets resilience strengthening activities.
- Early recovery activities implemented in the targeted ENAWO cyclone affected areas aiming to support communities for restoring damaged infrastructure ended in August.
- The finding of food security assessments (IPC and CFSAM) will guide WFP and the humanitarian community's post-emergency response in Southern and South-Eastern Madagascar.
- WFP's requirements from September 2017 to May 2018 amounts to USD 15 million.

Response to Natural Disasters	Total Requirements (in USD)*	Total Received (in USD)	6 Month Net Funding Requirements (in USD)**
PRRO 200735* (Jan 2015- June 2017)	129.7 m	72.5 m (56%)	4.1 m (3%)

*As per the PRRO Budget Revision 3

**September 2017 – January 2018

The Protracted Relief and Recovery Operation is implemented in the drought-affected southern areas of the country. It aims to provide relief food assistance to food insecure communities through a combination of food and cash-based modalities, supplementary feeding for the prevention and treatment of moderate acute malnutrition and to support populations' resilience and recovery from the impact of drought through Food Assistance for Assets (FFA). In November 2016, WFP significantly increased the scale of its emergency response to meet the immediate needs of food insecure populations. Following the Government's request, WFP's unconditional assistance was maintained until the end of May 2017. In June, only beneficiaries who could not be supported in May, benefitted from unconditional food and cash-based assistance. The focus of the operation is progressively shifting towards resilience strengthening during the post-emergency period.

In The emergency response of WFP to the El Niño induced drought ended in May and June. The findings of the food security assessments (IPC analysis, CFSAM) will inform the activities that will be implemented during the next few months in priority geographic zones. To present 14 priority communes in 7 districts (Bekily, Beloha, Amboasary, Ampanihy, Toliara II, and Betioky) have been identified for the FFA programme. A multi-sectorial assessment for identifying the appropriate delivery modality (cash, food and e-vouchers) for FFA activities was conducted in July. FFA activities in the 14 selected communes are expected to begin in October 2017.

In Numbers

157,787

People assisted in August through nutrition support and Food Assistance for Assets programmes

54%



46%



Operational Updates

WFP Response to the Drought in the South: While emergency response to the El Niño induced drought ended in May, in June, beneficiaries which could not be assisted in May, received unconditional cash and food based assistance. In July and August, nutrition support (treatment and prevention of moderate acute malnutrition - MAM) continued to be provided to 28,476 children under five years of age and pregnant and breastfeeding women as part of the MAM treatment component and 11,805 children under 2 years of age the under the MAM prevention component. An El Niño response lessons learned workshop with representatives of different Ministries, the National Disaster Management Authority (BNGRC), local authorities and representatives of beneficiaries was organized end of July. WFP is currently shifting its focus to resilience strengthening, while foreseeing unconditional assistance in pockets of food insecurity and undernutrition in the South, as per recent food security assessments (IPC June and preliminary findings of CFSAM). Furthermore, the possibility of providing assistance to populations in the South Eastern areas, is also being analyzed in light of the existing evidence on the deterioration of the situation.

Country Programme: School meals programme: In support to the Ministry of Education, WFP provides daily fortified school meals to 215,000 students in the southern regions (Anosy, Androy and Atsimo Andrefana) and marginalized urban zones of Antananarivo, Tamatave and Tulear. The inventory of school stocks was conducted in all WFP-assisted schools (including Government-supported schools where the Home Grown School Feeding approach has been adopted). WFP's funding shortfall for the school meals programme for the next school year stands at USD 3.6 million. A lessons learned workshop with WFP and Ministry of Education staff members was held end of August 2017.

WFP's response to cyclone ENAWO: On 11 March, following widespread flooding caused by the tropical cyclone ENAWO, WFP, in coordination with the National Bureau of Risk and Disaster Management (BNGRC) and in partnership with other actors, began unconditional food distributions to disaster affected populations. Following unconditional food distributions, a Food Assistance for Assets (FFA) programme was implemented in eight communes of Maroantsetra district and nine communes of Antalaha district, from May to August. These activities contributed to communities' recovery and the improvement of their access to roads and agricultural fields. Food Assistance for Assets activities in cyclone affected north-eastern areas ended in August.

Challenges

Since the beginning of the drought emergency, the international donor community has enhanced its support to WFP's operations in Madagascar. While WFP's El Niño response has been well funded, logistical and implementation challenges, including the poor state of roads and long commodity lead times, slowed down the pace of operations. WFP Madagascar's funding requirement for continuing its activities from September 2017 to May 2018 stands at USD 15 million. In terms of operational challenges for the ENAWO cyclone response, an already poor infrastructure was further deteriorated by the cyclone. Despite the completion of some rehabilitation works (river ports and bridges), transportation remained a major challenge.

Country Background & Strategy



Despite vast potential, Madagascar has experienced, over the past decades, a stagnation in per capita income coupled with a rise in poverty: 92 percent of its estimated 23 million people live below the international poverty line.

Madagascar has experienced several political crises since independence in 1960. The latest (2009-2013) negatively affected government institutional capacity, economic growth and social development efforts. It also reduced vulnerable people's access to basic services and their ability to prevent and recover from frequent shocks. Madagascar is one of the ten countries most vulnerable to natural disasters affecting communities' food and nutrition security. Five million people live in areas highly prone to cyclones, floods or drought. These risks are exacerbated by climate change and the El Niño phenomenon.

In March 2017, according to the findings of the multi-cluster emergency assessment mission, 72 percent of the population in the nine affected southern districts were found to be food insecure, including 26 percent of severely food insecure. Due to the large-scale humanitarian assistance provided in collaboration with the Government, by WFP and other actors, the situation of severely food insecure populations in drought-affected southern regions improved in 2017.

WFP's Country Strategy for 2015-2019 focuses on:

- 1) Providing emergency assistance to disaster affected communities and increasing their resilience to shocks;
- 2) Improving access to basic social services and safety nets; and
- 3) Strengthening access to markets for small farmers.

Strengthening national capacity and supporting the development of national programmes, policies and action plans are WFP priorities in Madagascar.

WFP has been present in Madagascar since 1968.

Population: **23 million**

2016 Human Development Index: **158 out of 188**

Income Level: **Low**

Chronic malnutrition: **47.3 % of children between 6-59 months**

Donors: African Development Bank, Andorra, Australia, Canada, European Union, Estonia, Finland, France, Global Partnership for Education (through the World Bank), Japan, Monaco, Norway, Russia, Switzerland, UK and USAID

Country Director: Moumini Ouedraogo

Contact info: Moumini.Ouedraogo@wfp.org

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