

WFP Madagascar Country Brief

Highlights

- WFP is shifting the focus of its operations towards resilience strengthening and the identification of priority areas for Food Assistance for Assets (FFA) resilience strengthening activities.
- Early recovery activities aiming to help communities to restore damaged infrastructure (roads and irrigation canals) are being implemented in the targeted cyclone affected areas.
- Integrated Food Security Phase Classification (IPC) and Crop and Food Security Assessment Mission (CFSAM) assessments are planned to be conducted in the southern regions in June and July 2017.
- WFP's funding shortfall from July 2017 to May 2018 amounts to USD 14.6 million.

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)	69 m	22.5 m (33%)	1.8 m (30%)

*May 2017 – October 2017

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: As part of the 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.

Nutrition: Supporting the National Office for Nutrition, WFP provides supplementary feeding for the prevention and treatment of moderate acute malnutrition, and the prevention of stunting. As the pilot phase of the project demonstrated significant impact on stunting prevention, in 2016, a joint UN extension of the project for three years (2017-2019) was signed by the Prime Minister. Resources are to be mobilized in 2017 for the implementation of this activity.

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 the Food and Agriculture Organization (FAO). In the south, 4,000 farmers benefit from P4P.

Main Photo Credit: WFP/David Orr
Caption: School children of a WFP-supported primary public school in southern Madagascar, Tulear.

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)	130 m	69.2 m (53%)	1.3 m (11.4%)

*As per the PRRO Budget Revision 3

*May 2017 – October 2017

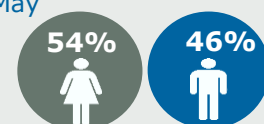
ENAWO Cyclone Update Following tropical storm ENAWO which hit the country in March, WFP supported Government initiatives through emergency food assistance to disaster-affected food insecure people. The emergency response phase was followed by Food Assistance to support communities to re-build community infrastructure. These operations are coordinated by the National Office for Risk and Disaster Management and in collaboration with humanitarian partners (authorities, United Nations agencies, NGOs). A coordination and Information Management structure was set up, as well as an increased logistics capacity to support the relief efforts of the humanitarian community and the government.

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). Since 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 will progressively shift towards resilience strengthening during the post-emergency period.

In Numbers

701,348 People assisted in May

245,054 Children received school meals in June



June 2017

The recently released findings of the IPC analysis will inform the activities that will be implemented during the next few months in priority geographic zones. WFP aims to provide early recovery and livelihood support activities to strengthen the resilience of disaster-affected communities.

Operational Updates

WFP Response to the Drought in the South: While emergency response to the El Niño induced drought ended in May, beneficiaries which could not be assisted in that month received unconditional cash and food based assistance in June. This included 770,729 people from the seven most severely affected districts. Given the deteriorated nutritional status of affected populations, nutrition support (treatment and prevention of moderate acute malnutrition - MAM) was provided to 7,012 children under five years of age and pregnant and breastfeeding women as part of the MAM treatment component and 17,946 children under 2 years of age under the MAM prevention component.

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 is currently being conducted in all WFP-assisted schools. WFP's funding shortfall for the school meals programme for the next school year stands at USD 3.6 million.

WFP's response to cyclone ENAWO: On 11 March, following widespread flooding caused by 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 in Analamanga, Atsinanana (east), Atsimo Antsiranana (southeast), SAVA and Analanjirofo regions. As part of the emergency response, 66,670 people received unconditional food assistance in cyclone affected regions (Antananarivo, Brickaville, Farafangana, Vangaindrano, Antalaha and Maroantsetra districts) with 10 to 15 day food rations that covered their immediate food needs. Following the unconditional food distributions, a Food Assistance for Assets programme is being implemented in eight communes of Maroantsetra district and nine communes of Antalaha district. These activities will contribute to communities' recovery as well as improve their access to roads and agricultural fields.

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 July 2017 to May 2018 stands at USD 14.6 million. In terms of operational challenges for the ENAWO cyclone response, an already poor infrastructure was further deteriorated by the cyclone. Despite completion of some rehabilitation works (river ports and bridges), transportation remains a challenge. Lack of cranes and forklifts further delay the unloading of vessels that contain humanitarian (food and non-food items of other humanitarian partners).

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

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