



WFP Madagascar Country Brief

Highlights

- In May, WFP continued its drought emergency response to meet the needs of disaster-affected communities through food and cash-based unconditional assistance and nutrition support. From June onward, the focus of the operation will shift towards resilience building activities.
- Since May, 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 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	23m (33%)	1.7 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.

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)	112 m	71.7 m (64%)	0 m (0%)

*As per the PRRO Budget Revision 3

*May 2017 - October 2017

ENAWO Cyclone Update Following tropical storm ENAWO, in support to the Government, WFP began emergency assistance through general food distributions to 2,000 internally displaced persons in temporary shelters of the capital, Antananarivo. These operations are coordinated by the National Office for Risk and Disaster Management and in collaboration with humanitarian partners (government institutions, Malagasy Red Cross, United Nations agencies, national and international NGOs).

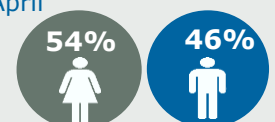
The Logistics Cluster hub established in Antananarivo coordinates and facilitates a unified response on behalf of the humanitarian community at national level, in close collaboration with BNGRC. Weekly coordination meetings are being held in Antananarivo.

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 Numbers

740,360 People assisted in April

215,000 Children received school meals in April



Main Photo Credit: WFP/Volana Rarivoson
Caption: Communities in southern Madagascar participating in a resilience strengthening Food Assistance for Assets activity.



May 2017

The food security assessments which will be conducted during the next few months will guide WFP and partner interventions in drought-affected areas beyond June 2017. After the emergency period, 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: In April, 740,360 people from the seven most severely affected districts received unconditional support from WFP through a combination of food, cash-based assistance and nutritional support programmes. Given the deteriorated nutritional status of affected populations, nutrition support (treatment and prevention of moderate acute malnutrition - MAM) was provided to 9,000 children under five years of age and pregnant and breastfeeding women as part of the MAM treatment component and 8,010 children under 2 years of age under the MAM prevention component. In April, 215,000 children from 1,066 schools received school meals. A beneficiary feedback hotline and third-party complaint mechanisms were also established to enable beneficiaries to send their feedback on all the implemented activities.

Country Programme: A joint field visit with Norwegian representatives, UNICEF and ILO was conducted at the end of May to WFP supported schools in the south of Madagascar. In coordination with WFP's Centre of Excellence in Brazil, a delegation composed of WFP, Ministry of Education and Ministry of Finance conducted a three-week exchange visit in Brazil during the month of May.

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 in Analamanga, Atsinanana (east), Atsimo Antsiranana (southeast), SAVA and Analanjirofo regions. As of the end of April 2017, 66,670 people had 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 will be implemented in eight communes of Maroantsetra district and nine communes of Antalaha district, to enable communities to recover from the shock and improve 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, have slowed down the pace of operations. WFP Madagascar's funding requirement for continuing its relief and early recovery assistance from May to December 2017 stands at USD 3 million.

In terms of current 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

Country Director: Moumini Ouedraogo

Contact info: Moumini.Ouedraogo@wfp.org

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