



Water, Environment and Sanitation (WES)

Madagascar

Basic Indicators

Total population (1000s)	17,404
Under-five mortality rate (per 1000)	126
Total adult literacy rate (%)	67

Water and Sanitation Coverage

	Water (%)	Sanitation (%)
Urban	75	49
Rural	34	27
Total	45	33

Country Setting

- Madagascar is among the poorest countries in the world, in spite of its natural wealth.
- Political turmoil has affected the country's socio-economic situation and the GDP fell by more than 10 per cent in 2002.
- The poverty level in the country is 73 per cent.
- Malnutrition is the major cause of morbidity and mortality among children under five.
- In 2002, inadequate basic services, combined with increased poverty, led to a sharp drop in health coverage and school attendance.
- Only 51 per cent of children reach grade 5. Gender and regional disparities are noted in all major indicators of primary education.

WES Sector Setting

- Relatively high diarrhoeal morbidity and mortality rates are due in part to inadequate access to safe water and sanitation services.
- Coverage rates over the last seven years show a gradual decline due mainly to poor maintenance and inadequate investment in infrastructure.
- Until 2002, the national budget allocated for water and sanitation was only 0.30 per cent of the total budget, with external aid allotting only 0.70 per cent.
- There is a lack of policy on water and sanitation and a shortage of human resources in the sector.

UNICEF WES Programme

Main Components

- Sanitation and hygiene education at school and community level.
- Putting water supply and sanitation facilities into place.
- Advocacy.
- Strengthening of national capacity.
- Introduction of new technologies and approaches, including SanPlat, PHAST, WASH.

Programme Highlights and Achievements

- Implementation is done with full community participation, including in data collection, planning, monitoring and evaluation and management.
- Good record of raising awareness and behavioural changes of communities on water, sanitation and hygiene.
- The programme targets 40 primary schools a year for water and sanitation facilities.
- A national programme is carried out in primary schools to promote good hygiene practices through hygiene education.