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Weekly Reporting: April 2023

Madagascar Country Office

Cyclone Gamane Response Humanitarian Situation Report

Update No. 2



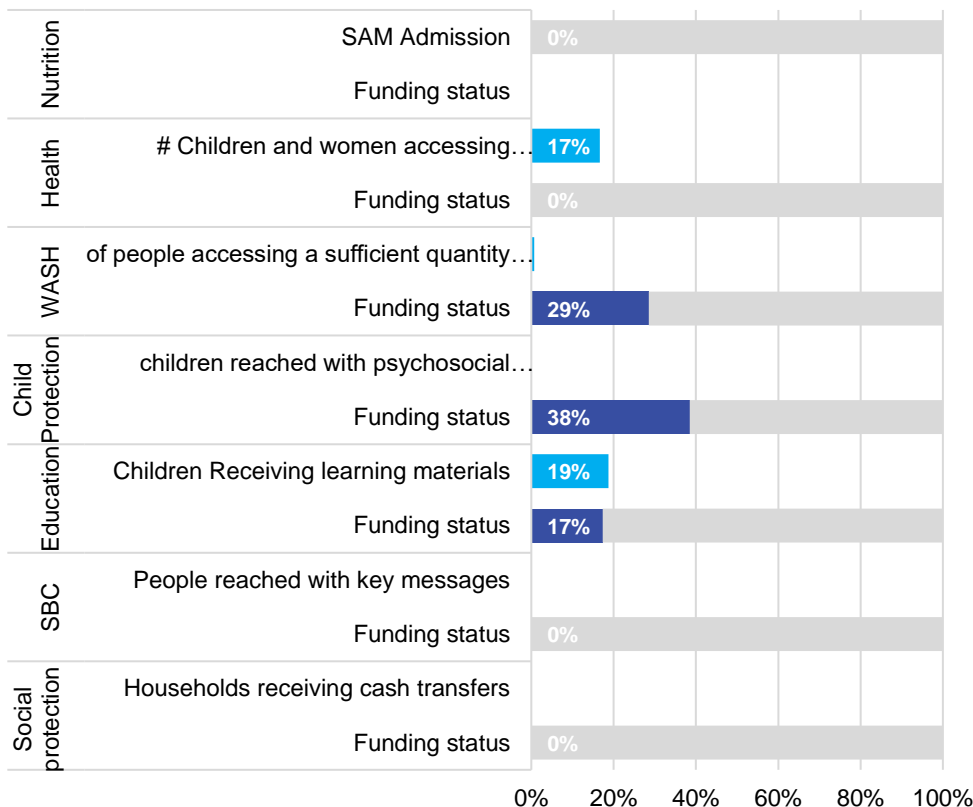
Highlights

- Three UNICEF staff are on site to support coordination and lead the in-depth assessment as Cluster Leads on WASH and Education.
- 13,000 students were identified as deprived of studies for 3 weeks after the passage of Cyclone Gamane and 700 improved and traditional water points combined were flooded, depriving 164,000 people of access to drinking water in 5 districts in Sava and Diana region
- In addition to the evaluations carried out by each cluster, humanitarian responses are underway, but are limited as access by road or sea is still not possible. Initial response actions involved delivering school kits to 2440 students in Ambilobe, Sambava, Vohemar and convening a Disaster Risk Management Committee meeting to align efforts with key stakeholders
- USD 6.34 million is required for immediate lifesaving action for all sectors, and the initial recovery response covering the areas of water and sanitation, education, child protection, nutrition, and health. The pipeline currently stands at USD 900,000.

Situation in Numbers



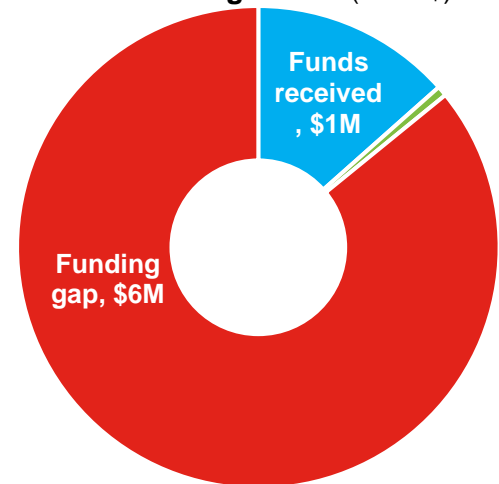
UNICEF's Response and Funding Status



Madagascar Appeal 2024

US\$ 6.34 million

Funding Status (in US\$)



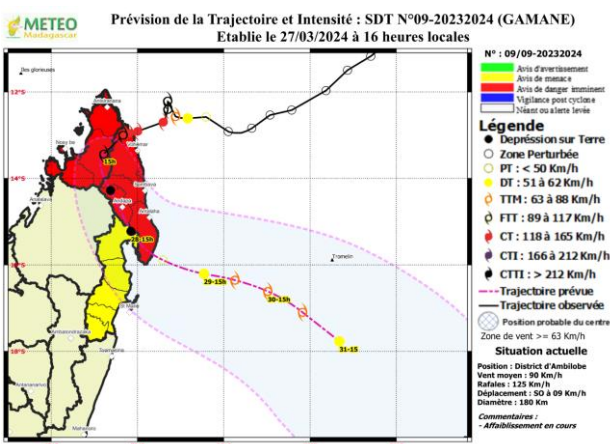
Funding Overview and Partnerships

UNICEF is appealing for USD 6.34 million to assist 124 000 women and children impacted by Tropical Cyclone Gamane. Given the scale of global emergencies, funding from the Central Emergency Response Fund (CERF) is USD 3,000,000. The TTI (Today Tomorrow Initiative) insurance system has released USD 93,000 and part of the use is for supply. The response supported by CERF will focus on Sava region and on three districts: Sambava, Vohemar and Ambilobe, and UNICEF will receive funds of USD 500,000 for WASH, USD 100,000 for child protection, and USD 200,000 for education. UNICEF expresses its sincere gratitude to all public and private donors for the contributions received. However, the response still has a funding gap of 88 %. Without sufficient funding over 18000 people will not have access to adequate sanitation, and over 10,000 children will not receive the psychosocial support they need. To meet the immediate response needs, UNICEF has reallocated USD 50,000 from regular resources to procure urgent emergency supplies.

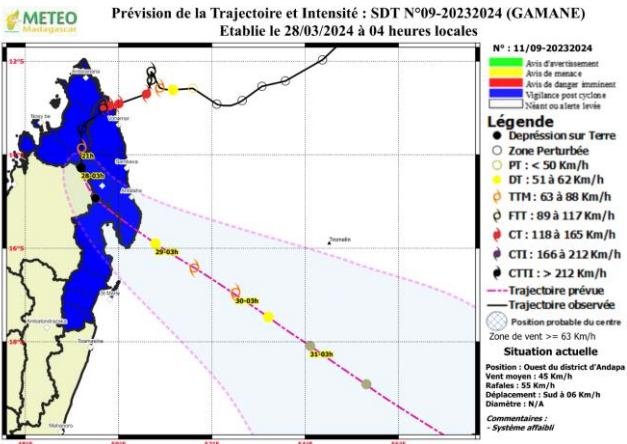
Situation Overview and Humanitarian Needs

Gamane is the first tropical cyclone to hit Madagascar in 2024. The cyclone made landfall in the commune of Ampisikinana on March 27. On making landfall, Tropical Cyclone Gamane reduced in strength but brought heavy rains causing widespread flooding in the regions of Diana, Sava and Analanjirifo. The storm system then turned south-east exiting the country over the extreme south of the Masoala peninsula on the evening of March 28. The trajectory compounded the impact of flooding with widespread disruption caused by Tropical Cyclone Gamane's passage through northeast Madagascar.

Tropical Cyclone Gamane Forecast Map 27 March



Tropical Cyclone Gamane Forecast Map 28 March



Summary Analysis of Programme Response

WASH

UNICEF actively supported coordination efforts by providing essential resources and technical assistance. This included supplying 10 boxes of Water Maker of 240 sachets in Ambilobe district, addressing critical water supply needs. Responding to the urgent need for infrastructure improvement, the Regional Directorate for Water and Sanitation (DREAH) conducted a needs assessment and technical study and for the replacement of 70-meter pipes with the national water utility JIRAMA, ensuring sustainable water access for the affected communities.

Red Cross Madagascar and local authorities played a pivotal role in raising awareness about the consumption of boiled water to prevent waterborne diseases. As part of capacity building initiatives, trainings on data collection were conducted in schools and health center, focusing on WASH situation diagnosis and assessment and distribution of Water Maker. The Regional Directorate for Water and Sanitation (DREAH) conducted meetings with the regional crisis unit to ensure the provision of WASH kits at four emergency accommodation centers, WASH kits for several rural communes, and the distribution of Water Makers, further bolstering water purification efforts in the affected areas.

Key constraints include logistical challenges in reaching remote areas, limited resources for comprehensive upgrades, and ongoing awareness needs for affected population. UNICEF will continue distribution of Water Makers, the provision of cans of HTH, a chlorine disinfection product, as well as support for coordination in Ambilobe district, including distribution of 500 Wash kits, five 45-kilogram cans of HTH, 100 boxes of Water Maker in bags, and training on well disinfection in Sambava, Vohemar, Andapa and Antalaha.

Nutrition

A strategic meeting convened on April 12, engaging key stakeholders including the national office for nutrition (ONN), the World Food Programme (WFP), the World Health Organization (WHO), and UNICEF. The focus of this meeting centered on preparing a robust response plan for the nutrition sector, laying the groundwork for coordinated and effective interventions. A joint mission to the Sava region will take place to conduct a comprehensive assessment of nutrition needs within clinics and hospitals. This mission will also involve detailed mapping exercises in collaboration with government counterparts, facilitating a nuanced understanding of healthcare infrastructure and resource allocation. Additionally, discussions are underway with the health cluster to explore opportunities for integrating specific nutrition activities into their broader response plan. This collaborative approach between the nutrition cluster and health cluster ensures a holistic and synergistic response to address critical healthcare and nutritional challenges.

Health

UNICEF is targeting to assist 24,000 children, 16,000 adolescents and 5,500 pregnant women to implement protective measures against malaria, including distribution of impregnated mosquito nets (LLINs) for 750 households, or 3,750 beneficiaries. The health assessment report is under finalization and procurement of emergency health kits and medicines were distributed for a total of 12,000 people for 3 months, including dispatch of six tents and tarpaulins to temporarily restore the functionality of the six most affected basic health centers. UNICEF will be deploying six mobile clinics in the Maroantsetra district to enhance healthcare access for communities in need, including conducting a gap assessment to identify critical needs and ensure targeted interventions in the Sava region.

Education

Efforts in education have been focused on swift assessments and strategic planning to address the significant impact of the crisis on school-aged children. A rapid assessment was conducted in districts such as Sambava, Vohemar, Antalaha, and Ambilobe, highlighting the urgent need for support. This included inventorying pre-positioned stocks in Sava, with approximately 60 kits available in Sambava alone. Initial response actions involved delivering school kits to 2440 students in Ambilobe, Sambava, Vohemar and convening a Disaster Risk Management Committee meeting to align efforts with key stakeholders. Noteworthy is the collaboration with Save the Children, supporting education continuity for 2,500 students across three municipalities. Plans are in place to assist 6,600 students in Sava and 6,000 in Ambilobe, providing essential kits and establishing temporary classrooms. This includes strategic distributions in key districts and leveraging logistical support, such as UNHAS planes, for efficient delivery. Additionally, a dedicated team from the Ministry of Education will bolster coordination efforts on-site.

Child Protection

Concerted efforts have been made to engage with partners (Catholic Relief Services, UNFPA and Save the Children) in planning and preparing rapid assessments in critical districts of Sambava, Vohémar and Antalaha with other sector members. Technical and financial support has been extended to facilitate effective response planning, notably collaborating with NGOs like AGIRS for targeted child protection response in the districts of Sambava, Vohémar and Ambilobe. Upcoming actions include on-the-ground missions to implement child protection responses in the Sava region, ensuring comprehensive coverage and tailored support, including rapid protection assessment in the districts of Sambava, Vohémar and Antalaha.

Social Protection

UNICEF's role in coordinating the Cash Working Group (CWG) underscores the commitment to efficient resource utilization and avoidance of duplication. Notable progress includes the positioning of seven organizations FID (Fonds d'Intervention pour le Développement), CRM (Croix Rouge Malagasy), CARE, SAF-FJKM (Sampan'Asa Fampandrosoana Fianganon'Il Jesosy Kristy Madagasikara), WFP, HI (Humanite Inclusive), and MEDAIR) to intervene in cash transfers and cash-for-work initiatives, benefiting 20,430 households in 13 communes in the six districts of the North and North-East region of Madagascar.

Social and Behaviour Change (SBC)

Strategic interventions have been undertaken across ten regions (Sava, Diana and Analanjirofo affected by Gamane and Atsinanana, Vatovavy, Fitovinany, Atsimo Atsinanana, Anosy, Sofia, Analamanga). These efforts have been instrumental in reaching a significant portion of the population with vital information and emergency protocols. Media communication via spots and special broadcasts reached 88% of the population 6 years and above (5,100,00 people including 2,600,000 women), with integrated emergency messages (cyclone and flood color codes, health, nutrition, wash, protection, education). Interactive meetings with community leaders (Fokontany Chiefs) involved 2,080,000 people (1,081,600 women) to discuss issues on alerts and integrated messages, and broadcast messages through U-report reached 28,000 subscribers to alert them on different levels of threat.

UNICEF also continued providing feedback to communities through the 930 toll-free number, with 36% response rate and 209,367 people used the 930 toll-free number to request information, give negative or positive feedback on humanitarian actions or the actions/attitudes of duty bearers, or report or denounce abuses or injustice encountered within the community. The theatre for development was attended by 1,100 people (including 600 women).

A rapid assessment on cholera survey showed among other results that 88% of people were reached with messages on cholera, 57.4% to messages on AAP and 60% knew of a PSEA reporting mechanism.

While progress has been notable, challenges such as sustaining community engagement and enhancing social accountability remain key areas for improvement. UNICEF aims to sustain community, community engagement and interpersonal communication in an integrated that that incorporate climate change adolescent health and resilience, strengthen social accountability measures to ensure quality service provision and conduct a thorough review of cholera interventions based on rapid assessments; refining strategies as needed.



A scout during a house-to-house visit in Sava

Humanitarian coordination and response

On March 30, an aerial assessment was conducted under the leadership of the Government Emergency Bureau (BNGRC) together with UN agencies and an NGO. UNICEF's participation in this assessment focused on health and nutrition aspects, acknowledging that protection needs could not be identified through this methodology. Due to extensive road damage and inaccessible areas, the assessment primarily utilized aircraft in two key locations: Sambisa and Antalaha.

Coordination efforts are spearheaded by the Resident and Humanitarian Coordinator (RC/HC) is leading coordination efforts, supported by UN OCHA. UNICEF ensures that its interventions are in line with Humanitarian Country Team guidance and recommendations, working in close partnership with the Government, international and local humanitarian NGOs, and the UN system. An immediate priority highlighted during the onsite assessment is the resumption of education from 15th April. To facilitate continuity of learning, public and private buildings, such as churches, etc., will be used as temporary classrooms.

UNICEF plays a key role in sectoral coordination by co-leading, with the government, the WASH, education and nutrition clusters and the cash working group, demonstrating proactive engagement in planning and executing comprehensive responses. UNICEF plays a key role in Accountability to Affected Persons by co-leading the group with the government disaster response agency, the BNGRC.

Human Interest Stories and External Media

Social media:

- [Continuation of support for children living in areas affected by Cyclone Gamane](#)
- [Support for children in affected areas so they can continue attending school](#)
- [Mobilization in collaboration with the Malagasy Government after cyclone Gamane](#)
- [Safety message post-cyclone](#)

Media:

[CYCLONE - Les dégâts de Gamane chiffrés à 339 milliards d'ariary \(lexpress.mg\)](#)

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Annex A

Funding Status*

Funding Requirements (Cyclone GAMANE 22 April 2024)						
Appeal Sector	Requirements	Funds available			Funding gap	
		Funds Received Current Year	Carry-Over	Total	\$	%
Nutrition	500,822			-	500,822	100
Health	1,639,300			-	1,639,300	100
WASH	1,751,427	500,000		500,000	1,835,235	79
Education	1,150,843	200,000	45,000	245,000	875,603	78
Child Protection, GBViE and PSEA	260,000	100,000		100,000	160,000	61
Communication for Development	400,000			-	400,000	100
Cash-based transfer	640,000			-	640,000	100
Cross sectoral / Cluster coordination	-	92,376		92,376	-	-
Total	6,342,392	892,376	45,000	937,376	5,698,584	88