



Reporting Period: 1 April – 31 May 2026

Madagascar

Humanitarian Situation

Report #1

April/May 2026

unicef 

for every child

Situation in numbers

681,000

People
affected

35,000

Displaced
people

341,000

Children in need of
humanitarian assistance

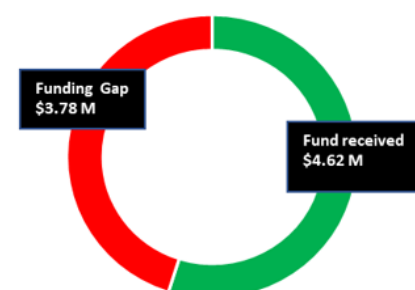
Highlights

- In less than two weeks in early 2026, Madagascar was struck by two successive cyclones: FYTIA in Boeny region on 31 January and GEZANI in Atsinanana region on 10 February, together affecting over 681,000 people and leaving 341,000 children in need of humanitarian assistance.

Through UNICEF support:

- 11,271 children and pregnant women received essential health and nutrition services in May through 24 integrated mobile clinics, bringing the total for the response to 23,829.
- 83,500 children accessed education in May and 79,500 received learning materials.
- 62 children received individual case management in May, bringing the total number of child survivors supported since the start of the response to 549.

Funding status 2026



Funding Overview and Partnerships

UNICEF's four-month cyclone response plan covers an integrated, multi-sectoral response across the Boeny and Atsinanana regions. Through the generous contributions of the Governments of Switzerland and Austria, the Central Emergency Response Fund (CERF) Anticipatory Action Fund and the CERF Rapid Response Fund, and UNICEF's Today Tomorrow Initiative Climate Insurance Fund, UNICEF has mobilised critical resources to respond to the needs of affected children and families. The CERF Anticipatory Action funding marked the first activation of this mechanism in Madagascar, enabling life-saving actions prior to the cyclone making landfall. UNICEF's Today and Tomorrow Initiative cyclone parametric insurance coverage renewed for 2026 with contributions from the United Kingdom of Great-Britain and Northern Ireland, provided flexible, rapid financing, enabling UNICEF to deploy resources within days of the cyclones.¹ A 3.78 million funding gap remains against the full requirements of the response plan. UNICEF calls on donors to provide the additional resources needed to sustain life-saving assistance to the most affected children and families.

¹ [UNICEF's Today & Tomorrow Initiative | UNICEF](#)

Situation Overview and Humanitarian Needs

In Boeny region, four months after Tropical Cyclone FYTIA made landfall in Soalala district, reconstruction efforts are underway across the six affected districts of Soalala, Mitsinjo, Marovoay, Ambato Boeny, Mahajanga I and Mahajanga II. FYTIA affected over 203,000 people, damaging or destroying more than 20,000 homes, 556 classrooms and 27 health centres. Agricultural losses were severe, with rice crops destroyed across thousands of hectares and losses reaching up to 70 per cent in the worst-affected districts, with significant food security implications. Humanitarian needs remain high against a backdrop of persistent vulnerabilities, with increased circulation of vector-borne diseases including malaria and arboviruses, a suspected measles case, and ongoing Mpox transmission, all requiring an integrated response.

Access to Soalala and Mitsinjo remains constrained but is improving. UNHAS monthly missions began in May supporting staff and cargo movements, a joint multisectoral mission covering health, WASH and education was conducted with government authorities and partners to strengthen coordination and update sectoral needs assessments, and larger supplies are being transported by boat to maximise reach.

In Atsinanana region, nearly four months after Intense Tropical Cyclone GEZANI struck the urban area of Tamatave I, the peri-urban area of Tamatave II and the district of Brickaville, the emergency response is transitioning to rehabilitation and reconstruction. GEZANI affected over 478,000 people, claimed 59 lives, and damaged or destroyed more than 102,000 homes, 761 schools and 30 health centres. Essential services and infrastructure are largely restored, though waste accumulation in fokontany-level streets remains a public health concern. Access to the communes of Ifito and Satrandroy in Tamatave II district remains difficult. To reach the most isolated communities, UNICEF and local authorities deployed teams on foot to deliver hygiene kits and temporary classroom materials, a three to four day journey each way.

Summary Analysis of Programme Response

Education

In Boeny region, with UNICEF support, 7,170 children (3,620 girls) received school kits and 36 temporary classrooms were constructed during April and May, enabling 6,500 children (3,350 girls) to return to school across five districts. Despite significant access constraints in Soalala and Mitsinjo districts, UNICEF supported the construction of 15 temporary classrooms to replace destroyed schools and provided school kits to 3,900 children (1,980 girls). However, needs remain substantial, with more than 110 classrooms destroyed and over 17,000 students still requiring school kits, while only 35 per cent of children in Soalala have returned to school since Cyclone Fytia. A joint mission conducted at the end of April helped realign field activities, strengthen coordination across the Education, Health and WASH sectors, and address key bottlenecks, enabling an acceleration of implementation. Additional support missions are planned to further expand temporary learning spaces and school kit distribution ahead of the next school year.

In Atsinanana, 324 temporary learning spaces (including 215 supported by UNICEF) have been established across Tamatave I, Tamatave II, and Brickaville through the combined efforts of UNICEF, the World Bank, the National Contingency Fund, and Save the Children. By the end of May, 77,000 students (38,800 girls) had returned to school, while 71,330 children (36,000 girls) received school kits, including 55,000 kits distributed by UNICEF. Roof rehabilitation using corrugated iron sheets has restored 120 schools, enabling an additional 25,000 children (12,625 girls) to resume learning. To support the end-of-year examination period, the Ministry of National Education provided 2,000 school desks (*table-bancs*), while UNICEF supplied 150 blackboards. In parallel, UNICEF is providing technical and financial support to the Ministry to develop a second-chance remediation programme for an estimated 20,000 primary school students (including approximately 10,500 girls). The programme aims to help children who do not pass end-of-year examinations address learning gaps and prepare to retake their exams in September. In coordination with social and child protection services, health and safety awareness campaigns have also reached 2,000 children (55 per cent girls) across 20 schools with UNICEF support.

WASH

Following the impact of Cyclone Fytia in the Boeny Region, 40 of the 70 planned water points comprising boreholes, hand pump-equipped wells, and traditional wells have been disinfected. The intervention has benefited over 12,150 people by improving access to safe drinking water in the districts of Soalala, Mitsinjo, Marovoay, Ambato-Boeny, and Mahajanga II. The remaining water points are scheduled to be completed in the coming weeks. The rehabilitation of 12 boreholes and 3 wells, all fitted with hand pumps is ongoing and is expected to be finalized by the end of June. Furthermore, the rehabilitation of a water supply network, which will restore sustainable access to drinking water for over 5,000 people, is in progress.

In Atsinanana, light rehabilitation of sanitation infrastructure has been finalized at Antetazambaro health facility in the district of Toamasina II. During May, temporary latrines and showers have been installed in 10 primary and 5 secondary schools in Toamasina II in coordination with the Education section to improve sanitation access for all students, with particular attention to the menstrual hygiene needs of adolescent girls. Furthermore, a total of 855 people were reached through WASH sensitization, kit distribution and hygiene promotion activities aimed at improving safe water, sanitation, and hygiene practices.

Health

Across the six districts of Boeny, 12 integrated mobile clinics were deployed to maintain access to primary healthcare in the most affected and hard-to-reach areas. During the reporting period, 5,376 people received essential health services through the mobile clinics, including 5,061 children and 315 pregnant women. Twenty-four integrated emergency health kits (IEHK) were provided, covering the primary healthcare needs of approximately 24,000 people for three months. The Mpox response was integrated into mobile clinic activities, combining awareness, contact tracing and vaccination, contributing to vaccinate 1,273 people over 18 years old amongst the targeted groups. Two tents were transported from Mahajanga to Soalala to restore a temporary service delivery point at one of the most affected health centres.

In Atsinanana, 12 integrated mobile clinics continued operating with extended coverage to the hard-to-reach communes of Tamatave II. During the reporting period, 5,895 people received essential health services through the mobile clinics, including 5,798 children and 97 pregnant women. Twenty-two additional IEHK kits were provided for last-mile delivery, covering the primary healthcare needs of approximately 22,000 people for three months, and 2,000 insecticide-treated nets distributed to 1,000 households to strengthen malaria prevention in affected areas. Thirty-five thousand HIV/syphilis tests were provided to support maternal health services and prevention of mother-to-child transmission. Six tents were installed across three damaged facilities to serve as temporary health centres and to increase maternity and outpatient capacity during rehabilitation works. The rehabilitation process has been launched for three prioritised health centres. A measles outbreak response was integrated into the cyclone response, with a targeted intervention across all health centres in Tamatave II.

Social and Behaviour Change (SBC)

In Atsinanana, 268 community actors including chiefs of Fokontany, School Principals, members of school management committee, community influencers, young people, traditional and religious leaders were mobilized to conduct back to school campaign in Districts of Tamatave I and II. This initiative has targeted 3,500 students including 600 in official exams classes who had not yet been able to return to school following Cyclone Gezani. Through proximity outreach promoting key messages on WASH, health, education, nutrition, and child protection, more than 10,440 people were reached in the districts of Toamasina I and Toamasina II. Through radio spots and programmes delivering

integrated messages on WASH, health, education, nutrition and PSEA, over 600,000 people were reached, of whom 245,000 were adults and 355,000 children.

Child Protection, GBV and PSEA

In Boeny, 26 fokontany chiefs and 55 protection sector actors were trained on Gender-based Violence (GBV), Prevention of Sexual Exploitation and Abuse (PSEA) and referral mechanisms. A co-creation workshop with 25 young community leaders developed locally adapted PSEA awareness approaches

During the reporting period, 7,751 children accessed safe and protective environments through Child-Friendly Spaces (CFS), where they received psychosocial support aimed at improving their well-being, strengthening their resilience, and supporting their recovery. The intervention reached 6,693 children in Atsinanana Region (Toamasina I and II) and 1,058 children in Boeny Region (Soalala and Marovoay). In parallel, 3,935 individuals—including 2,192 girls, 1,547 boys, and 196 women—benefited from Gender-Based Violence (GBV) prevention interventions. These activities contributed to increasing awareness of GBV risks and improving knowledge of existing reporting and response services. Most beneficiaries were recorded in Atsinanana Region (3,588 individuals), while 347 individuals were reached in Boeny Region.

Nutrition

In Boeny, nutrition services have been integrated into the 12 mobile clinics deployed by the health section, extending screening and treatment coverage across the most affected areas. The Ministry of Health has approved plans to establish five additional mobile clinics across Soalala, Mitsinjo, Ambato Boeny, Marovoay and Mahajanga II, with staff training scheduled for June 2026 and required supplies and equipment already identified and approved.

In Atsinanana, UNICEF supported the recruitment of 15 community health workers to strengthen the paediatric ward in one of the main regional hospitals for five months. During the reporting period, 64 children with severe acute malnutrition requiring medical care were admitted to hospital, of whom 48 were successfully treated and transferred to outpatient treatment. A further 81 children were admitted to outpatient treatment programmes across mobile clinics and health centres. 4,200 parents, caregivers, pregnant women and breastfeeding women received awareness sessions on infant and young child feeding. UNICEF provided therapeutic nutrition supplies and screening and treatment equipment across 43 health centres and two inpatient treatment centres.

Humanitarian coordination and response

UNICEF co-leads the education, health, WASH, nutrition and protection sectors alongside government counterparts in both Boeny and Atsinanana, as well as the Cash Working Group in Atsinanana. Sector coordination is active across all areas, contributing to improved communication, joint planning and alignment of response activities between humanitarian partners and national authorities.

In Boeny, the overall response is coordinated under the leadership of the Prefecture and the National Disaster Risk Management Office (BNGRC) through the Operations Centre, which serves as the primary platform for coordination and decision-making for both the FYTIA response and the concurrent Mpox emergency. Weekly multisectoral Public Health Emergency Operations Centre (COUSP) meetings bring together decentralised technical services, UN agencies and humanitarian partners to monitor the situation and align Mpox response activities. Intersectoral coordination has been reinforced through the renewed engagement of the BNGRC regional team.

In Atsinanana, the government-led Operations Centre has been managing the transition to rehabilitation and reconstruction since mid-March through twice weekly meetings and then reduced to a weekly meeting, led by the Centre of Operations, bringing together technical ministries, UN agencies, NGOs, civil society and civil protection forces.

Human Interest Stories and External Media

UNICEF has produced and disseminated a series of human-interest stories highlighting both the impact of the cyclone on affected populations and the organization's response on the ground. These narratives capture personal experiences and illustrate how UNICEF's interventions are supporting communities in their recovery.

To read more, please click on the links below:

- [Elio and the long road to recovery, a fragile lifeline after the cyclone.](#)
- ["My parents never went to school, and I want to continue my education all the way through."](#)
- ["It's more than a job; it's a vocation!"](#)
- [Dedicated teachers, motivated students.](#)

Social media

UNICEF has produced and disseminated a series of digital products highlighting both the impact of the cyclone on the lives of affected populations and the organization's response on the ground. These storytelling-driven materials include videos stories and photographs that document the situation of communities and the support provided. The products have been shared with external audiences, including media outlets, partners, and donors, to ensure visibility of the response and strengthen advocacy efforts.

To see more, please click on the social media links below.

- [Youth continue to mobilize to support Toamasina's recovery after Cyclone Gezani](#)
- [Maternal and newborn care sustained in Toamasina as emergency support continues after Cyclone Gezani](#)
- [Youth volunteer supports children's recovery through safe spaces after Cyclone Gezani in Toamasina](#)
- [Community outreach drives health and hygiene awareness in Toamasina's recovery after Cyclone Gezani](#)
- [Determined student continues learning in temporary classroom while preparing for exams after Cyclone Gezani](#)
- [Learning continues as students and teachers stay committed after Cyclone Gezani](#)
- [Young U-Reporters take action to support communities after Cyclone Gezani](#)
- [Emergency nutrition care sustains vulnerable children like elio after Cyclone Gezani](#)
- [Lova Renee, UNICEF Youth advocate shares her community's recovery after Cyclone Gezani](#)
- [Back to Learning, 11-Year-Old Aurélie finds joy and determination after Cyclone Gezani](#)
- [Aurelie's story](#)
- [Determined to Learn 12-Year-Old Francia stays in school after Cyclone Fytia](#)
- [Breaking the silence, survivor receives care and support after sexual violence in crisis context](#)
- [Fitia's story](#)

Annex A

For further
information
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Summary of Programme Results

Sector		UNICEF and IPs Response		
Indicator	Disaggregation	Feb-April	May Results	TOTAL results
Health				
	girls	7,340	6,042	13,382
	boys	5,119	4,817	9,936

# of children and women accessing primary health care in UNICEF-supported facilities	pregnant women	99	412	511
Nutrition				
# of children 6-59 months with severe wasting admitted for treatment	girls	113	21	134
	boys	133	16	149
# primary caregivers of children 0-23 months receiving infant and young child feeding counselling	women	2,399	2,142	4,542
	men	2,305	2,058	4,363
Child Protection				
# of children, adolescents, and caregivers accessing community-based mental health and psychosocial support	girls	3,129	3,953	7,082
	boys	2,621	3,798	6,419
	women	24	2	26
	men	24	2	26
# children who have received individual case management	girls	39	-	39
	boys	35	-	35
# of women, girls, and boys accessing gender-based violence risk mitigation, prevention and/ or response interventions	girls	5,332	2,192	7,052
	boys	3,638	1,547	5,235
	women	958	196	1,154
Education				
# of children accessing formal or non-formal education, including early learning	girls	18,300	43,100	61,400
	boys	17,800	40,400	58,200
# of children receiving learning materials	girls	19,500	40,621	60,121
	boys	18,750	38,879	57,629
WASH				
# of people accessing a sufficient quantity and quality of water for drinking and domestic needs	girls	2,381	2,013	4,394
	boys	2,366	1,933	4,299
	women	3,922	4,184	8,070
	men	3,888	4,020	7,908
# of people reached with critical WASH supplies	girls	4,384	141	4,525
	boys	4,324	136	4,460
	women	7,622	294	7,916
	men	7,499	284	7,783
Social Behaviour Change (SBC)				
# of people reached through messaging on prevention and access to services	girls	397,900	182,835	580,735
	boys	382,300	175,665	557,965
	women	325,600	124,950	450,550
	men	312,800	120,050	432,850

Annex B

Funding Status

Sector	Requirements (response plan)	Funds Received 2026	Funding gap	
			\$	%
Nutrition	550,000	170,000	380,000	69%
Health	1,400,000	638,000	762,000	54%
WASH	3,450,000	1,681,509	1,768,491	51%
Education	1,325,000	984,360	340,640	26%
Child Protection, GBViE and PSEA	1,225,000	810,370	414,630	34%
Social Behaviour Change	300,000	185,234	114,766	38%
Operational costs	150,000	150,000	-	-
Total	8,400,000	4,619,473	3,780,527	45%