



Floods after Eliakim cyclone, Antalaha, Sava region ©UNICEF Madagascar/2018

Madagascar

Humanitarian Situation Report

January-June 2018

Highlights

- From January to June 2018, Madagascar has been hit by tropical Cyclone Ava and tropical Storm Eliakim. UNICEF worked closely with the Government and partners to provide children and women access to nutrition, health, education, water, sanitation and hygiene and child protection services and support.
- No additional cases of the plague have been reported since December 2017, which marks the end of the “plague season”. However, UNICEF and partners remain vigilant.
- The Nutrition Surveillance System, implemented in 120 of 224 communes in Southern Madagascar, showed that 37 per cent have a global acute malnutrition prevalence (GAM) greater than 10 per cent; though the situation is similar to last year, UNICEF continues both its interventions and monitoring of the nutrition situation in the region.
- Of the four districts in the South-Eastern part of the country, the Integrated Phase Classification (IPC) for Acute Food Insecurity completed in May 2018 has found two districts in Phase 3/Crisis, and the other two districts in Phase 2/Alert. On the nutritional side, a SMART survey in April 2018 in these same four districts showed no emergency (GAM > 15%), though one district showed an alarming situation (GAM > = 10%).
- Political tensions related to the new electoral laws led to two deaths on 21 April and daily demonstrations since – mostly in the center of Antananarivo. Since 6 June, a new consensus government led by a new Prime Minister has been in place to prepare elections for the end of 2018.

As of 30 June 2018

1,900,000
of people in need

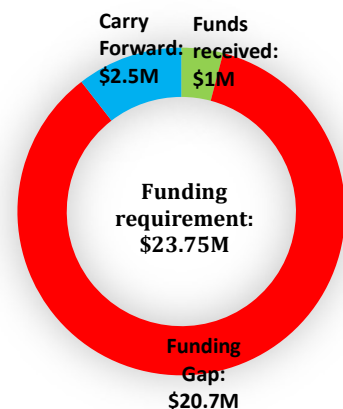
932,000
of children in need of humanitarian assistance

770,000
of people to be reached

362,000
of children to be reached

UNICEF Appeal 2018
US\$ 23,750,000

Funding Status 2018*



*Funds received includes funds received for current appeal year as well as carry-forward from previous year.

Key Programme Indicators	UNICEF		Sector/Cluster	
	UNICEF Target	Total Results*	Cluster Target	Total Results*
Nutrition: #Children under 5 with SAM admitted to therapeutic treatment sites	25,000	6,552	25,000	6,552
Health: #People received insecticide treated nets	35,000	56,000		
WASH: #People accessed the agreed quantity of water for drinking, cooking and personal hygiene	300,000	249,622	350,000	249,622
Education: #Children accessed formal and non-formal pre-school, primary or secondary education	50,000	25,650	50,000	25,650
Child Protection: Children reached with psychosocial support	5,000	1,818		

Situation Overview and Humanitarian Needs

Between January and June 2018, Madagascar experienced tropical Cyclone Ava and tropical Storm Eliakim - both hitting the northern part of the country.

Ava hit from 6 to 8 January, affecting 55 districts in the northern region. More than 160,000 people were affected with around 18,000 people displaced. Most areas exhibited sufficient resilience because of community mechanisms put in place by the Government of Madagascar with the technical and financial support of UNICEF during the response to cyclone Enawo in 2017. However, some affected areas remained vulnerable because of the effects of Enawo to critical systems (health, WASH, education, roads etc.). The impact of Cyclone Ava worsened the situation of children due to high levels of poverty already prevalent in the affected areas.

Tropical Storm Eliakim passed through Madagascar from 16 to 18 March 2018 and brought intense rainfall, floods and winds, impacting more than 60,000 people. This included around 19,000 people who were temporarily displaced or evacuated and 21 deaths. The storm destroyed almost 5,000 houses and impacted education, water and sanitation infrastructure. Fifteen roads were damaged, interrupting the supply of critical health supplies. Furthermore, 27 health facilities were moderately damaged leading to temporary disruption of the provision of healthcare services for 50,000 people including 9,000 children under five, 2,200 pregnant women and 11,000 women of reproductive age.

UNICEF, in partnership with the Ministry of Water, Energy and **MAP: Ava affected areas, OCHA Madagascar**

Hydrocarbons (MEEH), that coordinates the WASH Cluster, and WASH partners estimated that 60,000 people lost access to safe water, sanitation and hygiene (WASH) facilities due to the flooding of 850 wells. Many people living in flooded villages needed water treatment products and WASH kits. Safe access to WASH facilities also needed to be restored for 60,000 people to avoid outbreaks of water-borne diseases.

Children's education was affected too. Over 54,000 children had their schooling interrupted due to total or partial damage to 1,118 classrooms and loss of school supplies. Needs assessments conducted by social workers in the Analanjirofo and Diana regions showed low impact of cyclone Ava on child protection issues. However, 1,818 children displaced because of tropical storm Eliakim were identified as being in need of psychosocial support.

The effects of the El-Nino induced drought in the southern part of the country and continues to fuel food insecurity due to low agricultural output and lack of access to safe water, sanitation and hygiene facilities in the affected regions. The presence of health services is also weak in this region, with more than 70 per cent of the population living more than 5 km away from a basic health center.



Humanitarian Leadership and Coordination

Coordination efforts were led by the National Office for Risk and Disaster Management (BNGRC) via the Comité de Réflexion des Intervenants en Catastrophes (CRIC) of which UNICEF is a member. The CRIC organized coordination meetings every three to five days and the clusters conducted sectoral meetings for planning purposes.

Responses already initiated following the cyclone Ava in January 2018 contributed to quick responses to tropical storm Eliakim as the affected areas were predominantly the same.

UNICEF, as cluster lead in WASH, Education, and Nutrition, and having a strong presence in Health and Protection clusters, played a key role in developing humanitarian response strategies involving partners, organizing humanitarian response

coordination meetings and regularly reinforcing the capacities of the BNGRC in humanitarian response. UNICEF co-led the coordination meetings of the Emergency Cash Group that included the private sector.

BNGRC and the Humanitarian Country Team (HCT), of which UNICEF is a member, also activated the National Contingency Plan for the 2017/2018 cyclonic season since tropical cyclone Ava passed through in January 2018. The overall coordination of emergency preparedness activities prior to the entry of each cyclone season has been conducted by the BNGRC with the HCT fully integrated into this coordination mechanism.

Regarding tropical storm Eliakim, the CRIC met daily before its made landfall to estimate potential damage and to monitor the situation. Upon arrival of Eliakim, with the support of the logistics cluster, an inter-agency team visited the most affected districts on 19 March 2018 to conduct a rapid overflight assessment; a second air assessment was held on 26 March. This first overflight assessment included participants from BNGRC, OCHA, Ministry in charge of Agriculture, Civil Protection Corps, UNICEF, WFP and CARE International. It made successive landings at Toamasina, Mananara North, Maroantsetra and Antalaha and was able to assess the level of the damage and to communicate directly with the Local Committees of Management of Risks and Catastrophes. These assessments provided the first figures on the damage, and identified the most urgent needs.



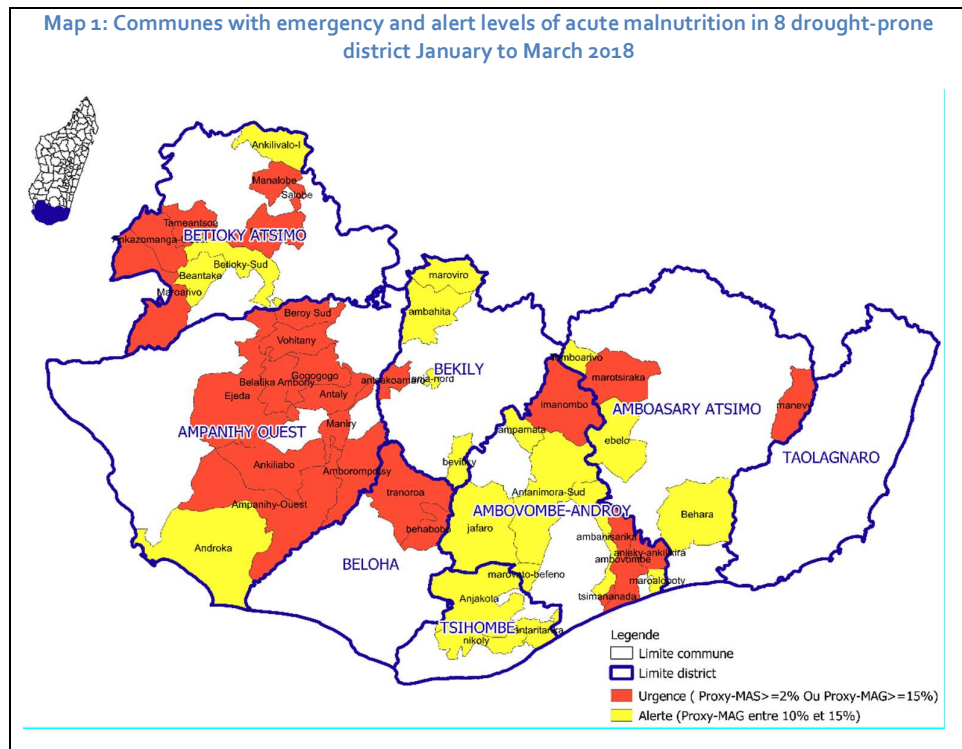
Humanitarian Strategy

The Government of Madagascar, BNGRC, United Nations agencies (UNICEF, WFP, OCHA), and NGOs (ODDIT, Red Cross) mobilized and rapidly responded to the most immediate needs of affected populations as a result of Ava and Eliakim using pre-positioned stocks (rice, roofing sheets in Toamasina). UNICEF pre-positioned stocks were sufficient to respond to identified needs (direct support to relocation centres, WASH, tarpaulins, drug kits, pep kits, school in a box, temporary learning structures or hospital tents).

Summary Analysis of Programme Response

Nutrition:

During the first quarter of 2018, in agreement with the National Nutrition Cluster, UNICEF supported the Ministry of Health (MoH) to carry out an exhaustive community-based nutrition screening in 120 communes of the 224 communes in Southern Madagascar. A total 246,700 children were screened for acute malnutrition representing 67 per cent of all children aged 6-59 months in the eight affected districts. The results showed a nutritional emergency with Global Acute Malnutrition (GAM) prevalence of 15 per cent and higher in 26 out of the 120 communes (22 per cent) and an alert level (GAM between 10 per cent and 14.9 per cent) in 17 out of the 120 communes (14 per cent).



Between January and June 2018, over 6,552 severe acute malnutrition (SAM) cases have been treated (including 2,305 cases identified through mass screening and 428 cases reached through the mobile clinics). The low coverage of SAM children may be explained by incomplete first semester data due to late reporting from Ministry of Health. Also, an important funding gap has affected SAM activities especially deployment of mobile clinics to reach the most vulnerable in isolated areas.

Among these children, 87.8 per cent were cured, 0.6 per cent died and 7.7 per cent failed to complete treatment which is in line with national and SPHERE standards. In addition, 22,913 mothers/caretakers who attended health care services at the health center level benefited from the promotion of optimal Infant and Young Child Feeding practices. In communes presenting GAM prevalence under 10 per cent, UNICEF, the Government and Nutrition Cluster partners continue to monitor the situation through the Nutrition Surveillance System and to ensure SAM treatment service delivery at the health facility level.

Regional and districts health authorities benefited from continued technical support from UNICEF with the following:

- Relocation of two mobile teams composed of local health staff and a national consultant to reach the most vulnerable children in newly identified pockets of malnutrition.
- Distribution of 5,000 boxes of Ready-to-use therapeutic foods (RUTF) and other nutrition life-saving supplies (therapeutic milk and essential drugs) to 208 health centers including supply pre-positioning for the needs of about 1,000 children.
- Continued technical support through four national nutrition consultants to district authorities to support local nutrition cluster coordination, service delivery and monitoring of the ongoing response services.

Health:

Response to cyclone Ava started in March while the same region was hit by tropical storm Eliakim and the response to both was carried on simultaneously. The UNICEF response strategy focused on supporting the Government to ensure uninterrupted access to health services. Response for these two emergencies was as follows:

Ava:

- With the resurgence of malaria following the cyclone, 11,200 families (56,000 beneficiaries) benefited from the distribution of long-lasting insecticidal nets (LLINs) provided by UNICEF in Farafangana and Ifanadiana districts.
- UNICEF provided emergency kits including essential equipment and drugs (especially against diarrhoea and pneumonia) covering 6,000 people for one month in the districts of Ifanadiana and Nosy Varika.
- UNICEF provided three basic emergency medical kits to referral hospitals in Toamasina and two other kits to Antananarivo covering 15,000 people for one month.

Eliakim:

- Provision of medicines for the treatment of 16,000 cases of pneumonia for children under 5.
- Deployment of four 24 m² tents to work as temporary basic health centres that served 39,000 people.
- Provision of 13 midwifery kits, including medicines and equipment, at 13 basic health centers that benefited 75,000 pregnant women.

Drought: Response to the drought in the south continues through:

- Provision of equipment and medicines to 198 basic health centers and support for 52,000 cases of childhood illnesses.
- A total of 3,652 community health workers trained in Integrated Community Case Management and equipped with materials and medicines.
- Fifteen operational “mobile clinics” were provided and offered health services in areas located more than 10km from the basic health centers. This allowed 96,545 people to benefit from preventive care and sensitization in addition to treatment of 8,200 cases of illness and disease for children under 5.

WASH:

UNICEF’s response for people affected by Ava and Eliakim has focused on the disinfection of wells, sensitization on best practices of hygiene and sanitation, distribution of water makers and WASH kits (soaps, jerrycans etc.) In total 116,722 persons affected by Eliakim and Ava have benefited from WASH activities since January.

While the availability of pre-positioned stocks in the affected districts enabled UNICEF to quickly respond to the affected communities, challenges were briefly faced in the transportation of materials within the affected districts due to damaged roads. This was promptly fixed by the government.

In summary, the WASH response to Eliakim and Ava has been as follows:

Eliakim

- 19,015 people have access to clean water through distribution of 210,350 water makers sachets, soaps and jerrycans
- Disinfection of 1,080 wells in Maroantsetra District in collaboration with the Regional Directorate for Water, Energy and Hydrocarbons (DREEH) Analanjirofo, Malagasy Red Cross (MRC) and SAMPAN’ASA FAMPANDROSOANA FIANGONAN’I JESOSY KRISTY MADAGASIKARA/Development Branch of the Church of Jesus Christ in Madagascar (SAF FJKM), has benefitted 54,000 people.

Ava

- 34,707 people have access to clean water through disinfection of 186 wells (107 wells in Sofia region, 37 wells in Analanjirofo region and 42 wells in Brickaville) and distribution of 18,475 water maker sachets through UNICEF support to the DREEH in Sofia, Boeny, Atsimo Atsinanana and Analamanga region. UNICEF also supported the MRC to disinfect 79 wells. With UNICEF support, the DREEH distributed 203 water cards to a temporary displacement site in Analamanga.
- Disinfection of 180 wells benefited more than 9,000 people, with support of UNICEF and in collaboration with DREEH in Vatovavy region.

Drought:

- 132,900 people affected by the drought in the South gained access to safe water, of which 104,400 people by ongoing water trucking and 28,500 through rehabilitation of 102 boreholes and construction of 12 new boreholes.

Education:

Ava: A total of 23,250 children have been able to return to school following cyclone Ava. The Education Cluster through pre-positioned stock purchased by UNICEF provided 465 temporary classrooms, 205 recreational kits and 376 school-in-a-box kits.

Eliakim: Around 2,400 students in Maroantsetra (Analanjirifo) benefited from 43 temporary classrooms and 60 school-in-a-box kits, through pre-positioned stock purchased by UNICEF. It is worth noting that one of the challenges has been the transportation of stock to the affected areas which are hard to reach and coordination with the Logistics Cluster was crucial to the response. As many of the areas hit by Ava were also hit by Eliakim, UNICEF supported the Ministry of Education in data analysis to avoid duplication of support.

Child Protection:

A total of 1,818 children (888 girls; 930 boys) benefited from psychosocial support provided by social workers linked to the Ministry of Population. Available local capacities were largely sufficient to respond to Ava and Eliakim.

Cash-based programming:

UNICEF Madagascar planned to reach 39,000 households with cash transfers in 2018. However, based on needs assessments from the storms that indicated impacts were not as intense as previous years, and resources did not materialize as planned, cash transfers specifically in response to Ava and Eliakim were not carried out. The Government managed to mobilize part of the needs using public resources and a contingency fund by the World Bank. Other partners in the cash group also responded with minor interventions. Nevertheless, UNICEF has supported coordination activities of the Emergency Cash Group as its co-lead. UNICEF and the group continue to promote the implementation of the “Madagascar Cash in Emergency Principles” to improve coordination and harmonization among partners in implementing cash-based programming, especially in preparation for the upcoming drought season.

Communication for Development (C4D):

In collaboration with the Emergency Communication Network, under the leadership of the BNGRC and the Ministry of Communication, UNICEF has conducted two rapid assessments on social and behaviour change communication components in the districts affected by tropical storm Eliakim (Analanjirifo, Diana and SAVA regions) and cyclone Ava (V7V and Atsinanana regions). Findings from the assessments were used to adjust the C4D response plan for cyclones and floods. Implementation of activities has included dissemination of communication materials, mass media activities through national and local radios/TV stations, listening group advocacy with key community leaders and influencers, and reinforcement/support to the local emergency communication networks. The interventions are estimated to have reached a combined audience of approximately 80 per cent of the population from these five regions. Three C4D officers have been recruited to serve as regional Technical Assistants covering the south, east and north-west regions. These have helped to strengthen local C4D emergency platforms and reinforce communication preparedness and responses to common emergencies such as cyclones, floods, droughts and epidemics. Community engagement activities have also continued to strengthen community preparedness.

Supply and Logistics

At present, the country office’s warehouse stock suffices in support of UNICEF routine programme activities and potential emergencies. Soon the procurement process will be initiated for scaling-up the pre-positioned stock, to be sufficiently prepared to respond to seasonal emergencies such as cyclones which normally hit from November to April. Current pre-positioned stocks (at Antananarivo and with implementing partners in the periphery) are at the low-end though, because of this year’s responses to date. The last shipment by boat of education and health supplies to the area of Maroantsetra affected by the two storms is ongoing in coordination with the Logistics Cluster. UNICEF has pre-positioned stock available

to respond to a potential plague outbreak thanks to lessons learned from the plague outbreak UNICEF responded to from September to December 2017.

Media and External Communication

UNICEF's communication activities in the first half of the year focused on highlighting the impact of the storms and UNICEF's response to the affected populations through social media as well as with local and international media bodies. Some of the links are:

<https://twitter.com/UNICEFMada/status/976033070238355457>

<https://twitter.com/UNICEFMada/status/974990075963629568>

<https://twitter.com/UNICEFMada/status/974526463213891584>

UNICEF also used social media channels to monitor the situation of the affected people during the disasters. This way, UNICEF got relevant information on the ground about the situation during the stress periods in addition to keeping the public informed about the situation.

Security

The security situation remained generally calm during the first half of 2018. However, current socio-political tensions in Antananarivo since April 2018 have led to some uncertainties.

Funding

UNICEF Madagascar's humanitarian appeal of US\$ 23.75 million to meet the needs of children and their families remains severely underfunded with a funding gap of more than 85 per cent. For the two crises that have hit Madagascar in the first six months of 2018 have been managed using pre-positioned stocks. However, UNICEF Madagascar has been forced to use its Regular Resources and other development funding, as per New Way of Working recommendations, to support emergency response activities to reach the most vulnerable. Such a significant funding gap will seriously hamper UNICEF's ability to respond quickly to future emergencies since stocks have been largely depleted. The risks of cholera, increased malnutrition due to drought, and plague remain for the rest of 2018. Therefore, UNICEF calls on donors to provide flexible and timely support for the continued humanitarian response in the country.

Funding Requirements (as defined in Humanitarian Appeal of 01/01/2018 for a period of 12 months)					
Appeal Sector	Requirements	Funds available*		Funding gap**	
		Funds Received Current Year	Carry-Over	\$	%
Nutrition	4,100,000	321,000	348,333	3,430,667	84%
Health	4,300,000	-	651,937	3,648,063	85%
WASH	9,000,000	216,953	768,497	8,014,550	89%
Education	1,000,000	-	-	1,000,000	100%
Social Protection/cash transfer	4,000,000	-	85,212	3,914,788	98%
Child Protection	750,000	-	28,507	721,493	96%
Cross sectoral / Cluster coordination	600,000	458,396	649,766	-	0%
Total	23,750,000	996,349	2,532,252	20,729,561	87%

* Funds available includes funding received against current appeal as well as carry-forward from the previous year.

Next SitRep: 31/08/2018

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Annex A

SUMMARY OF PROGRAMME RESULTS

Indicator	UNICEF		Sector/Cluster	
	UNICEF Target	Total Results	Cluster Target	Total Results
Nutrition: #Children under 5 with SAM admitted to therapeutic treatment sites	25,000	6,552 ¹	25,000	6,552
Nutrition: #Children under 5 supplemented with vitamin A, dewormed and screened for acute malnutrition twice in 2018	362,000	TBD ²	362,000	TBD
Health: #People received insecticide treated nets	35,000	56,000 ³		
Health: #People provided with access to essential and life-saving health care services	300,000	204,360 ⁴		
WASH: #People accessed the agreed quantity of water for drinking, cooking and personal hygiene	300,000	249,622 ⁵	350,000	249,622
Education: #Children accessed formal and non-formal pre-school, primary or secondary education	50,000	25,650 ⁶	50,000	25,650
Education: % of school children who are vulnerable to disease outbreaks reached with appropriate epidemic prevention materials	100%	0 ⁷	100%	0
Child Protection: #Children reached with psychosocial support	5,000	1,818 ⁸		
Social Protection: #Number of vulnerable households receive cash transfers	39,000	0 ⁹	179,341	0
C4D: #people reached with key life-saving and behaviour change messages on health, nutrition and safe and appropriate sanitation and hygiene practices contextualized to the emergency scenario	100,000	969,278 ¹⁰		

¹ SAM children treated from January to June 2018 as a result of continued interventions for the drought in eight districts in the South (Please note that there has been no specific interventions for Ava and Eliakim by Nutrition section). The low coverage of SAM children may be explained by incomplete data due to late reporting from Ministry of Health. Also, an important funding gap has affected SAM activities especially as regards deployment of mobile clinics to reach the most vulnerable in isolated areas.

² Data not yet available since Mother and Child Health Week activities took place end May and data analysis is still going on.

³ 11,200 families received LLINs, and since a family has approximately 5 members, total beneficiaries= 11,200*5=56,000. The 2018 HAC target was surpassed because after the passage of AVA and Eliakim, a recrudescence of malaria was noted in the affected regions. Thus, UNICEF supported the Ministry of Health in the distribution of mosquito nets in Farafangana and Ifanadiana districts in addition to the areas UNICEF usually supports (i.e. Atsinanana, Analanjirofo, SAVA, Anosy and Androy).

⁴ These are users of basic health centres and mobile clinics in the affected regions.

⁵ Total number of people that accessed water as a result of Ava, Eliakim and Drought interventions by UNICEF.

⁶ Total number of children with access to basic education as a result of both Ava and Eliakim education interventions.

⁷ No education interventions related to epidemics so far, this year.

⁸ Target was set basing on results of the previous year, and was over-estimated. Target will be revised.

⁹ As Noted in the response section, the Country Office did not fund specific cash transfers in response to Ava and Eliakim.

¹⁰ There was an underestimation of this target during the HAC 2018 planning. Target will be revised during HAC 2018 revision.