MADAGASCAR [GRAND SOUTH & GRAND SOUTH-EAST] : IPC Acute Food Insecurity Snapshot

IPC Integrated Food Security Phase Classification
Evidence and Standards for Better Food Security and Nutrition Decisions

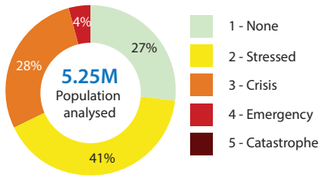
Published on May 30, 2022

Key Figures

1.68 M

Around 1.68 million people out of the 5.25 million people of the Grand Sud and Grand Sud-Est regions of Madagascar analysed are experiencing high levels of acute food insecurity (IPC Phase 3 or above) between April and August 2022.

32% of the analyzed population of 5.25 million is experiencing high acute food insecurity (IPC Phase 3 or above).



Overview

After being hit by the storm systems of Ana, Batsirai and Dumaki, Emnati is now the fourth storm system to have affected Madagascar in the space of 40 days between late January and early March. In addition, the three regions of the Grand Sud-Est were affected by the cyclones and tropical storms Vatovavy, Fitovinany and Atsimo Atsinanana.

Grand Sud-Est

For the first time, the districts of the Grand Sud-Est, with the exception of Vangaindrano, are classified in IPC Phase 3 (Crisis) even in the middle of the harvest period. The number of people in IPC Phase 4 (Emergency) is approximately 67,000 (including 15% of the population of Mananjary and 5% of the population of Manakara). Nearly 638,000 people are classified as IPC Phase 3 (Crisis) or above and require urgent action, representing 31% of the populations of the districts analyzed.

Grand Sud

In the Grand Sud, although the situation remains fragile, it has improved significantly compared to April 2021, with a decrease in the number of people classified as IPC Phase 4 (Emergency). Despite humanitarian aid that is the mainstay of the household economy, from April to August 2022, 33% of the population in the Grand Sud is still highly food insecure (IPC Phase 3 or above), including 122,000 people in IPC Phase 4 (Emergency), and 925,000 in IPC Phase 3 (Crisis). Although rainfall has been good, production remains low, despite a significant increase (greater than the previous two seasons) that has been observed or is expected in some districts. Bekily District is an exception to this trend, with 55% of its population in Crisis (IPC Phase 3) or worse due to drought. Ambovombe is also an exception, with 45% of its population in IPC Phase 3 or worse.

Projections

In the coming months, both for the first projection period (September to November 2022) and for the second projection (December 2022 to March 2023), a deterioration in the food security situation is expected. The global context (COVID-19, Russian-Ukrainian crisis) will affect inflation and household purchasing power. The expected poor harvests will force people to buy food in markets, where prices will be very volatile. Households will implement crisis and sometimes emergency food and livelihood strategies based on productive livelihoods, depending on the district.

Thus, for the first projection period, 1.95 million people are likely to be highly food insecure (IPC Phase 3 or above), with a slight decrease in the population in IPC Phase 4 (Emergency) in the Grand Sud Est. This decrease is attributed to the positive effects of humanitarian aid distributed during the current period as well as the agricultural recovery underway. On the other hand, for the Grand Sud, the number of people in IPC Phase 3 (Crisis) or above could increase moderately, as this period coincides with the start of the school year and the lean season.

Key Drivers of Acute Food Insecurity

Cyclones and floods

For the Grand Sud-Est, two intense tropical cyclones caused flooding and massive destruction in the agricultural sectors, resulting in loss of production as well as sources of income and food for households.

Drought

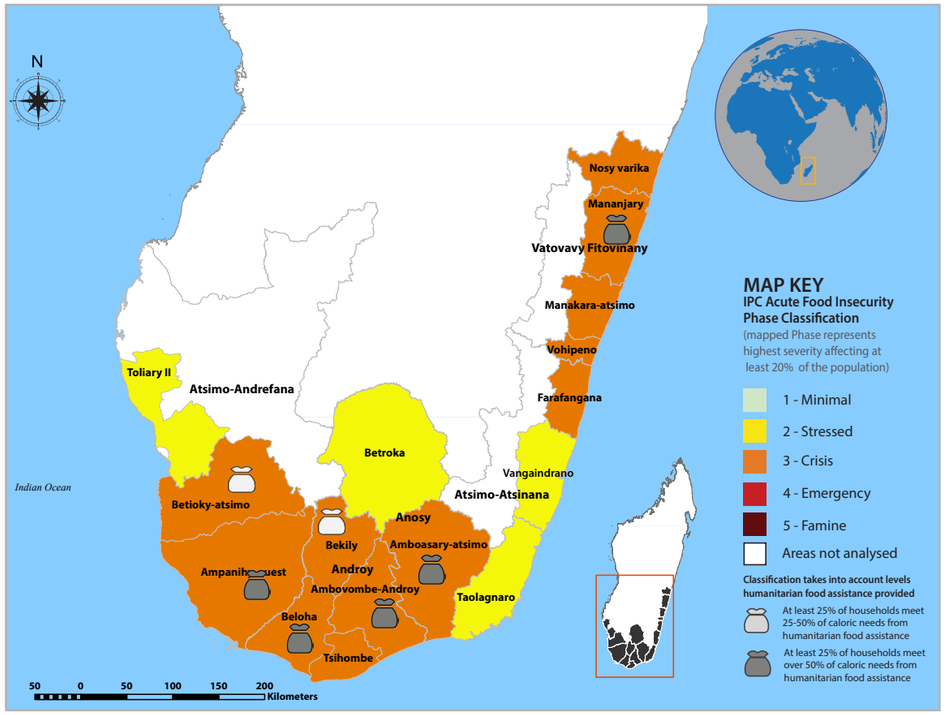
Erratic rainfall, especially at the planting stage for the high agricultural potential areas in the Grand Sud, has resulted in low production. Three years of consecutive severe drought have wiped out harvests and hampered access to food in Madagascar's Grand South regions.

Price shocks

The COVID-19 context and the Russian-Ukrainian crisis combined with crop losses due to climatic phenomena have the potential to transform the creeping inflation rate into galloping inflation.

Current Acute Food Insecurity [Grand South & Grand-South East]

April - August 2022



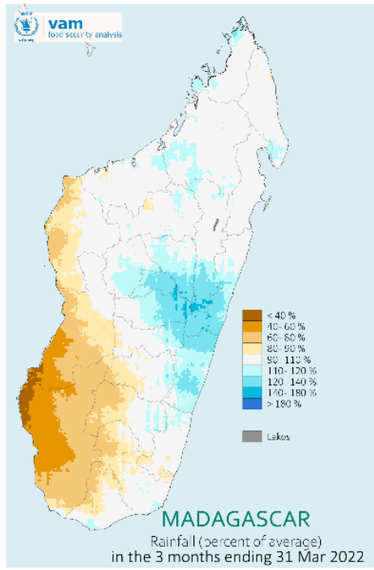
Drought

Southern Madagascar continues to experience its worst drought in 40 years, leaving part of the population fighting for survival. Three years of consecutive severe drought have wiped out harvests and hampered access to food in Madagascar's Grand South regions. Late and erratic precipitation is a major driver of food insecurity in Madagascar's Far South, especially for the Betioky and Bekily Districts.

Despite the humanitarian assistance, these two main agricultural areas have significantly suffered from rainfall deficits. Several attempts at planting have suffered a lack of adequate rainfall, material resources and seeds and have not been able to extend the areas planted optimally. Agricultural households in the Far South complained about the absence and insufficiency of inputs.

Madagascar has two seasons: a hot, rainy season from November to April and a cooler, dry season from May to October. The east coast has a sub-equatorial climate driven by easterly trade winds and the heaviest and most consistent rainfall, with a maximum of 3,700 mm annually.

Rainfall Distribution by % | March 2022

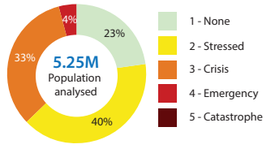


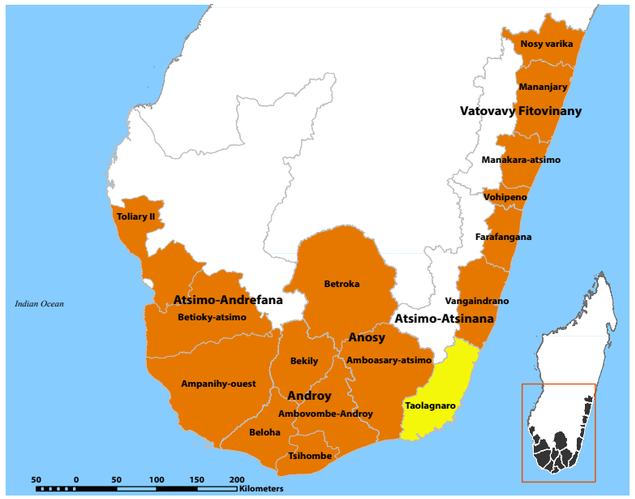
Key Figures | First Projection | September - November 2022

1.95 M

Over 1.95 million people out of the 5.25 million people analysed will likely experience high levels of acute food insecurity (IPC Phase 3 or above) in Southern Madagascar between September and November 2023.

Population in Phases of acute food insecurity



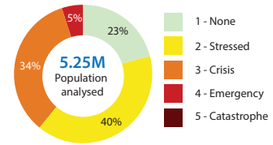


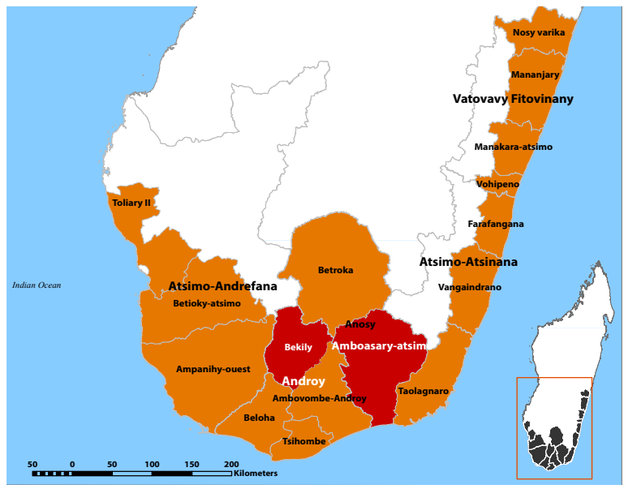
Key Figures | Second Projection | December 2022 - March 2023

2.06 M

Over 2 million people out of the 5.25 million people analysed will likely experience high levels of acute food insecurity (IPC Phase 3 or above) in Southern Madagascar between December 2022 and March 2023.

Population in Phases of acute food insecurity





Publication date: May 2022 | *IPC population data is based on Madagascar's National Institute of Statistics estimates. | Feedback: IPC@FAO.org | Disclaimer: The information shown on this map does not imply official recognition or endorsement of any physical and political boundaries.

IPC Analysis Partners: