



South-East Food Security and Nutrition Hotspot Analysis

Highlights

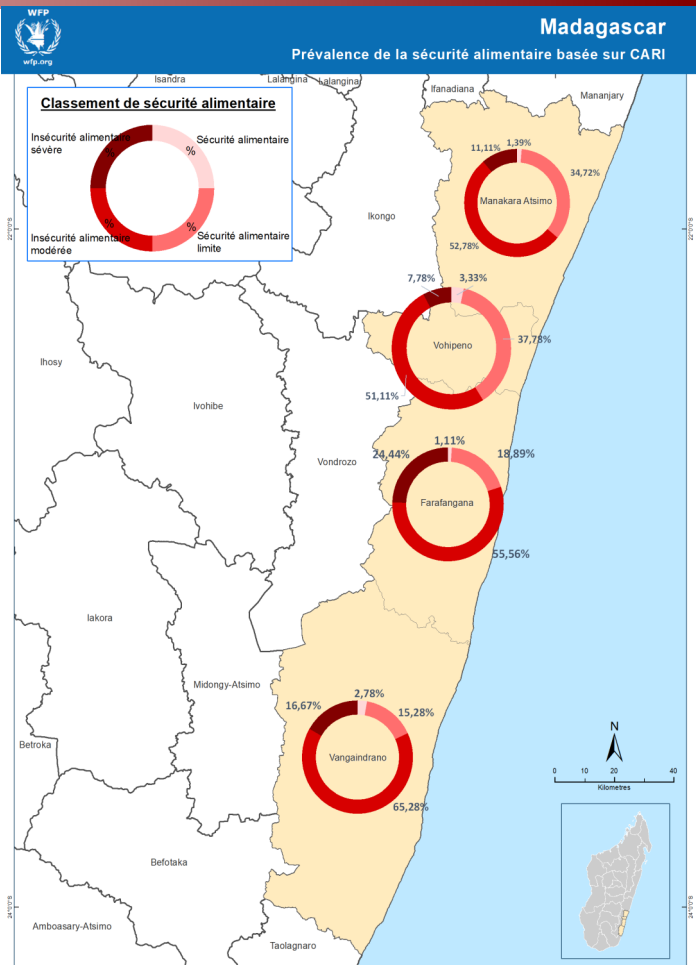


Domestic availability: More than 63 percent reported that the food lasts 2-3 months, with only 33 percent indicating it would last for more than 4 months.

Prices : Main staple food have spiked as a consequence of the ripple effect of Russia and Ukrainian crisis. Increases reported are 47 percent higher compared to the four-year average and 23 percent compared to last year for Imported oil. The same trend is observed in Maize, Local and the imported rice with more +15 percent compared to the five-year average.

Food insecurity : has deteriorated, from 0.26 food insecure people reported in 2019 to 0.87 in 2023. Cyclone and drought, continues to underpin vulnerability : food insecurity prevalence stand at 71 percent in which 15 percent are severe food insecurity and 33

Recommendations : Government, UN agencies (WFP, FAO) and NGOs should continue to reinforce emergency preparedness and response, local production, value chain support as well establish an EW system.



This hotspot analysis is conducted under by the RAM Unit using secondary data analysis and emergency food security analysis post FREDDY impact analysis as well market and nutrition analysis of screening data.

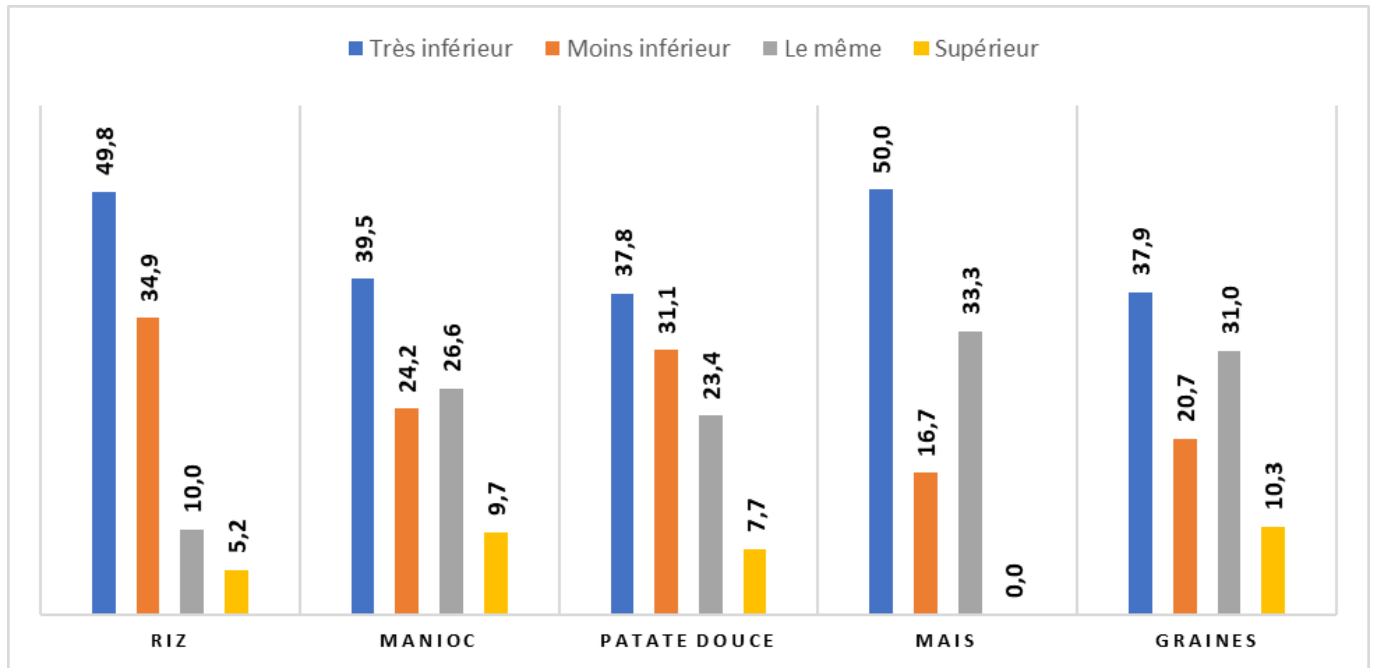


Income and Food Stock



Households economic capacity

51 percent of the HHs reported that the food produced can't meet their cereal needs according to the FAO norm (185kr/pers/an). More than 63 percent said the food would last 3 months, with only 13 percent indicating it would last for more than 3 months. In the South East , households' main source of food comes from agriculture, while the main staple food productions is less than normal mainly for the rice and the maize (50%).



Grap 1 : Households food production appreciation

At the district levels, food gap is more accentuated in the Farafangana, Mananjary and Vangaindrano where the food production covert 2 month on average. In those areas more than 85% of the hhs reported that the food production has been impacted the FREDDY cyclone.

Shocks



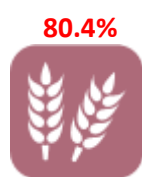
8 out of 10hhs have been affected by a the cyclone and the rise



Increase in food prices



Cyclical shocks have reinforced poverty in which vulnerable households currently find themselves. Also, the rise in prices coupled with the decline in prices of products sold by households, including a deterioration of the terms of trade exposed household to food insecurity. The Far-North region is mostly affected by climate crisis and inflation while in the NSW region, the conflict is the main food insecurity drivers that exacerbate the vulnerability of poor households.



80.4%

Food Production Lost



30%

Agricultural wage lost



44.7%

Livestock Lost



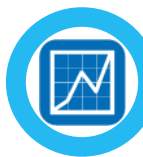
6%

Fisherie Lost



22.6%

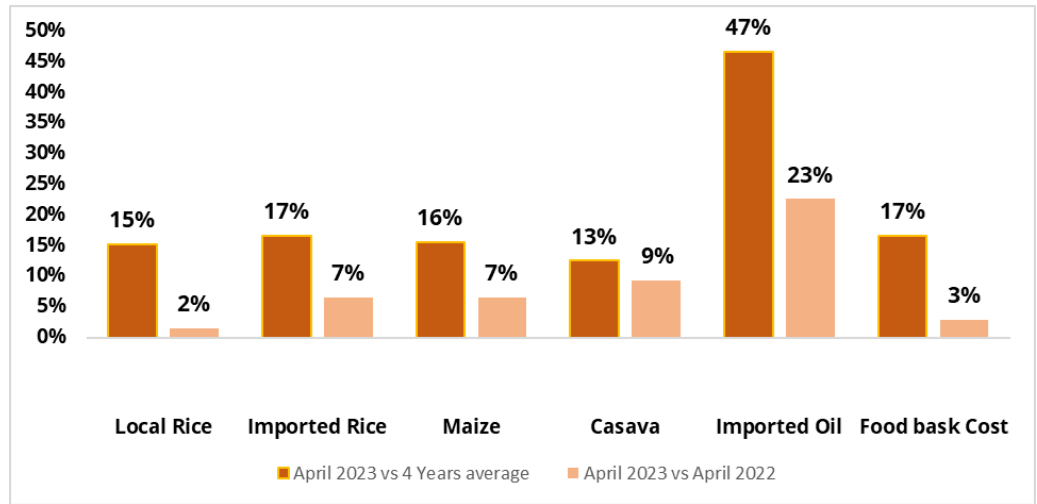
Trade Lost



Main Staple Food

Global prices of commodities have spiked as a consequences of the ripple effects of the cyclone and landlocked. A steep increase of main staple food prices is observed, with an increase of **+47** percent compared to the four-year-average and **+23** percent compared to the last year for Oil.

The same trend is observed in Imported rice and with **+17** percent and for the local rice and **+16** percent compared to the four-year average. As result the cost of the food basket cost has increase by 17% compared to the 4 years average.

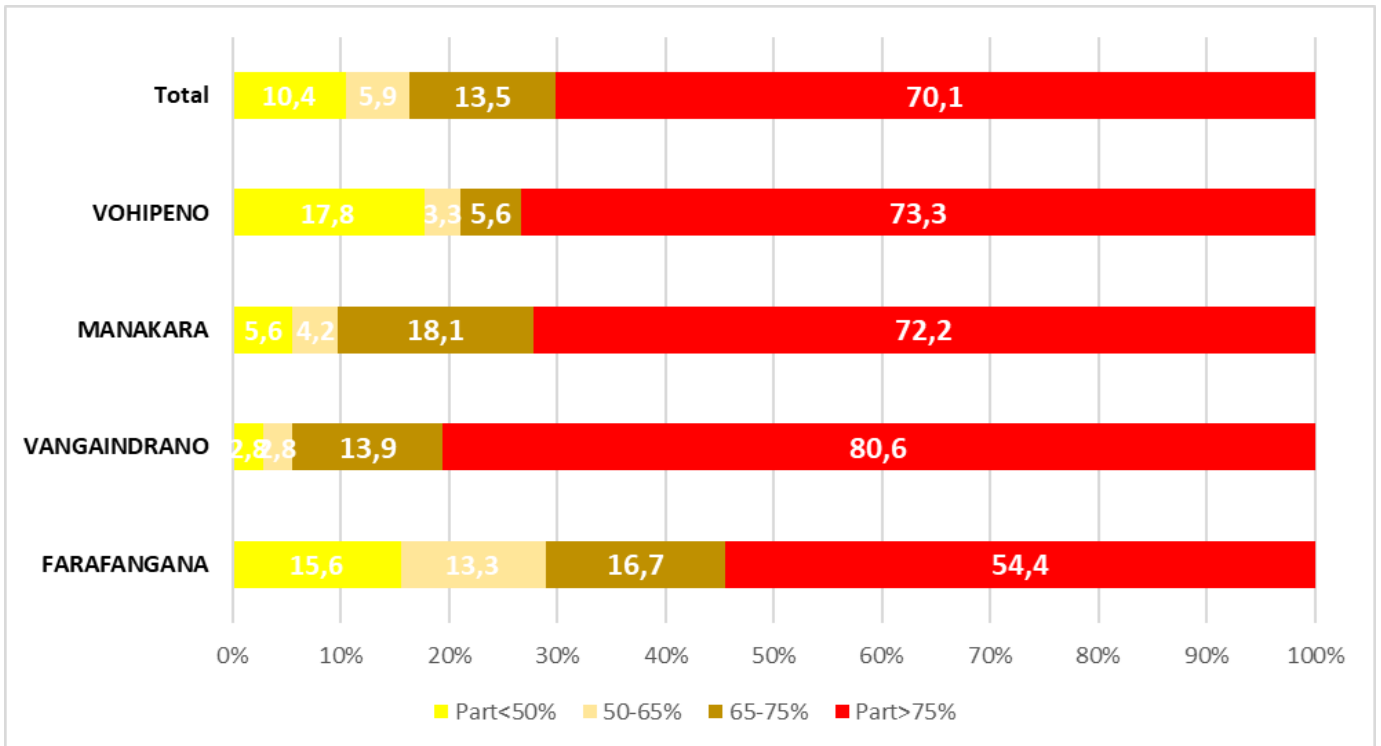


Graph 3: Main staple food prices compared to 2021 and five-year average



Households Food Expenditures

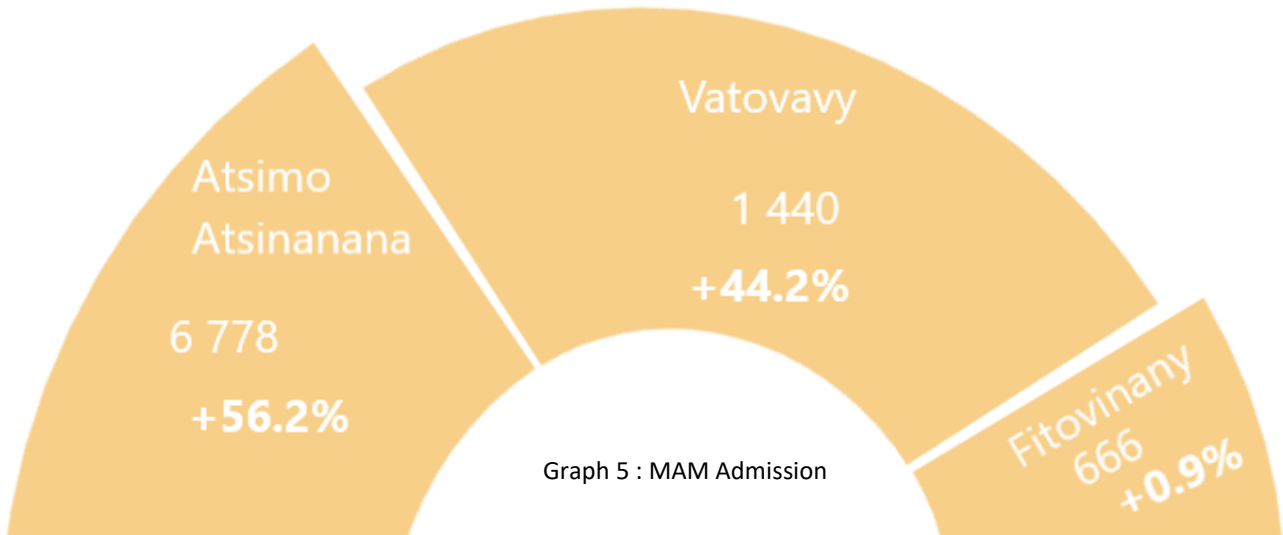
Food expenditures represents for nearly three-quarters of total household spending. This reveal a high economic vulnerability of households to the extent that they may no longer have enough income to access food in case of shock. This situation is significantly high in the Vangaindrano, Vohipeno and Manakara. In these district, food expenditure represented more than 80 percent of their income on food. This situation reveal the high hhs vulnerabilities who releguates in their basics needs and the low purchase power.



Graph 4 Household Food Expenditure by District

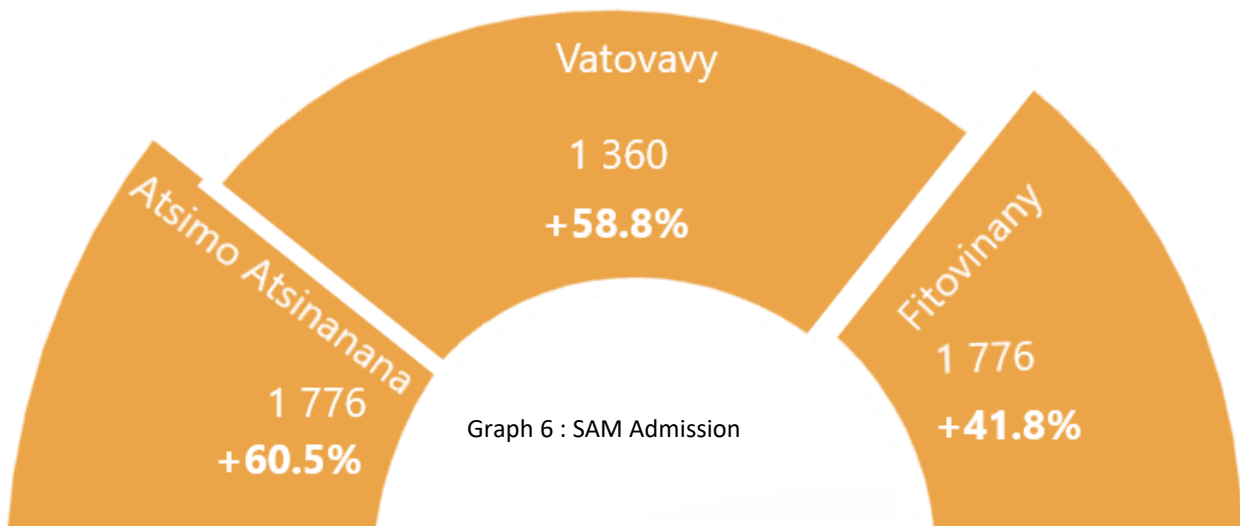


According to the table above, Moderate Acute Malnutrition (GAM) rate for the period under review stands at 5,6 percent. At District level, the situation is critical at Befotaka district (16.6) and serious at Farafangana (11.1) and Midongy (11.5) districts. In Befotaka district , the nutrition situation is critical in 8 out of 10 communes are while in Farafangana district, the nutrition situation is worrying 16 communes out of 33 communes in which 10 are critical and 6 serious. In Vonindrozo and Vangaindrano, 3 communes in each district are in critical nutrition situation.



Graph 5 : MAM Admission

According the screening data, the admission fo Moderate acute malnutrition treatment has Increase up to 32% between January to March. The situation is alarming in Befotaka (121%), Vangaindrano (84%) where the admission is more double in three months. Lack of dietary diversity and wash have been shown to be a crucial issue, particularly in these districts. **One** out of **two** children aged 6–23 months (**48%**) were not fed the minimum number of meals or snacks recommended each day – the indicator referred to as minimum meal frequency; the quality of young children’s diets has remained persistently poor.



Graph 6 : SAM Admission

The persistency insufficient energy (kilocalories), fat, protein and/or other nutrients (vitamins and minerals, etc.) to cover individual needs due to the recurrence of the shocks has exerbated the severe acute malnutrition (SAM). Results from the screen data reveal high rate of SAM (27%) and increase for SAM admission; more than 60% in Atsimo Atsinanana. The districk of Befotaka (25%), Vangaindrano (21%) as well the Farafangana districk (33,6%) presented the worse situation. Furthermore, It is the result of chronic or recurrent undernutrition, usually associated with poverty, poor maternal health and nutrition, frequent illness and/or inappropriate feeding and care in early life.



Food Security Overview



Food Consumption and Consumption behavior



13% Of HHs with poor food consumption



65% Of HHs with inadequate food consumption

78% of households have inadequate food consumption and this is more in the Ikongo (**95%**), Befotaka (**91%**) and Nosy Varika (**87%**).

Food insecurity was found to be higher among household heads by women, out of **33** percent of female-headed households with inadequate food consumption .

The diet on average lacks diversity. Cereals, legumes and oil/fats represent the three most common food groups consumed.



Coping strategies

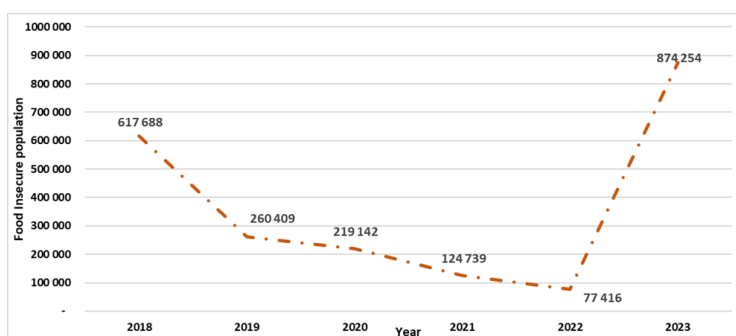
Apart from food coping strategies, households implement livelihood strategies to cope with food shortages. **10,8** percent engaged in crisis strategies such as harvesting of immature crops, and **10,4** percent engaged in emergency strategies such as selling the last female animals and begging. North-West and South-West had the highest proportion of households engaging in emergency coping strategies at **44** percent, and **41** percent respectively.



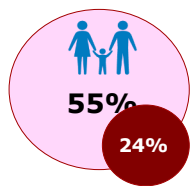
Population trend in acute food insecurity

The population estimated to be at crisis and emergency level of food insecurity (IPC Phase 3+), has more than doubled since 2019 (from 0,26 million in 2018 to 0.87 million 2022). This number could go to increase in the coming 2024 lean season as the ongoing FREDDY response couldn't reach the landlocked area and the malnutrition as well the rise price of the main staple food remain worrying.

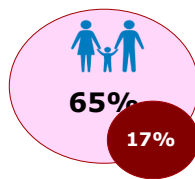
Livelihoods Coping Strategy



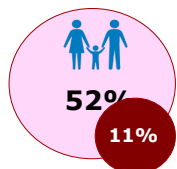
Graph 7 : Food Insecurity Trend



FARAFANGANA



VANGAINDRANO



MANAKARA

71 percent of the population are food insecure, of which **56** percent are moderately food insecure and **15** percent are severely food insecure. But, this hides disparities at the region level.



Humanitarian Access

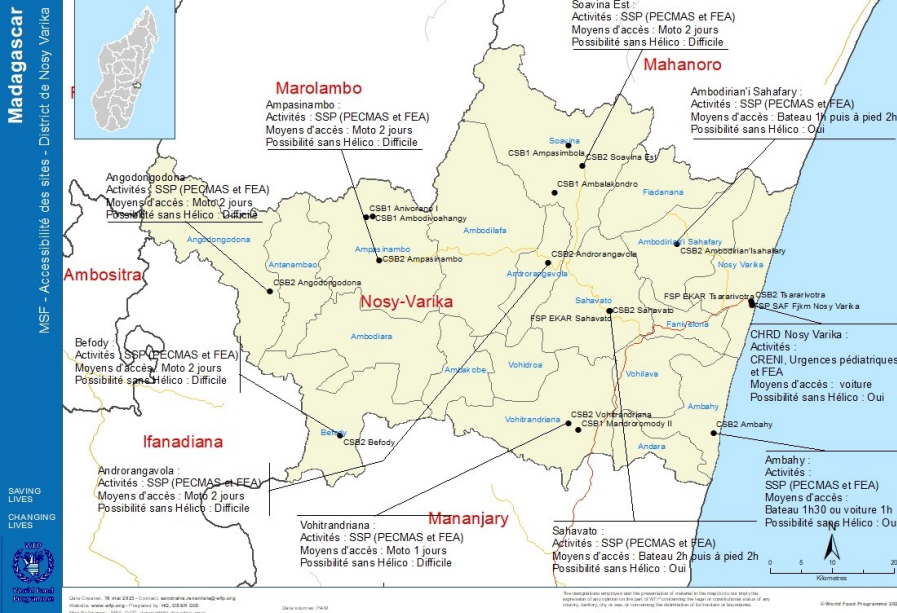
Constraints assessed under this topic include any logistical impediment to humanitarian access caused by a number of different and at times related factors, including weather conditions; the state of basic infrastructure; the availability of goods, materials, or services necessary for the delivery of assistance and aid; and the geographic location of affected areas.

In the South-East, rainy seasons associated with poor infrastructure have strong implications for humanitarian access limiting humanitarian organisations from accessing affected territories. This outcome resulted from the escalation of FREDDY as well as potential financial obstacles, has increase the challenge of the ability of people in need to access assistance.

In many Nosy-Varika District, frequent disruptions to basic infrastructure, often road infrastructure, linked to natural hazards mainly cause physical constraints and contribute mainly to landlocked the majorities of the communes of which only Motorcycle could help you to proceed.

Apart from seasonality, the severe disruption or bad condition of basic infrastructure limit humanitarian access in this two district, leading to the delay or suspension of operations. All communes across the south-east seem to have access constraints related to infrastructure disruption, especially and Ikongo. Crises related to natural disasters (floods, landslide, and cyclones) have a higher incidence of severe infrastructure disruption.

The access situation is worse in Befotaka and Ikongo ; the main communes are accessible only by helicopter . Natural hazards, and poor logistical infrastructure mainly cause the highest level of physical and environmental constraints in the region, given landmine contamination, armed clashes, poor road infrastructure, and frequent natural hazards.



Madagascar - Accessibilité des sites - District de Nosy Varika
 MSF - Accessibilité des sites - District de Befotaka Sud
 Madagascar - Accessibilité des sites - District d'Ikongo

The food insecurity situation in the South6east has been deteriorated, from 0.26 food insecure people reported in 2019 to 0.87 in 2023. Cyclone and drought, continues to underpin vulnerability : food insecurity prevalence stand at 71 percent in which 15 percent are severe food insecurity. The major disrupting factors are cyclone, flood, drought, and landlocked, leading to a steep in food prices in consequences of the global food crises (Russia and Ukrainian crisis) . The food insecurity situation is very high with prevalence of 82 percent in VANGAINDRANO, 79 percent in FARAFANGANA and 63 percent in MANAKARA.

People are already forced to widely adopt emergency survival strategies like selling family productive assets threatening to harm their health, nutrition, and wellbeing.

Recommendations

- Providing an emergency response and ensuring longer-term economic and community resilience to vulnerable communities, FREDDY IDPs are essential as the region emerges from the impact of Ukrainian and Russian crisis and the cyclone continues to exacerbate the vulnerability; of poor households.
- WFP and other partners involved in the food security sector could reinforce local production, transformation, and utilization of substitute commodities ;
- Reinforce the technical capacity of Government of regional and departmental food and nutrition security coordination committees and other decentralized data/information providers, and also build capacity and transfer expertise in food and nutrition security monitoring and vulnerability analysis;
- Provide technical support in Early Warning , Emergency Preparedness and planning including food security monitoring and nutrition surveillance, and vulnerability analysis ;
- Strengthen and build capacity in monitoring and evaluation (M&E) of activities as well as timely reporting and mainstream Results Based Management (RBM) approaches ;
- Transfert relevant knowledge and best practices to national and decentralized levels ;
- Implemente regular market and price monitoring through sentinel sites using mobile technology and/or Key informers;
- Assessment of the current food and nutrition security monitoring systems as well identify gaps and define capacity building strategy and roadmap for the inaccessible area.

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