

Country Sheet Madagascar





HI's team and areas of intervention

HI's team in Madagascar is made up of 176 personnel





General Country Data

a. General data

Country	Madagascar	MOZAMBIQUE	France
Population	28,427,333	31,163,045	67,499,343
HDI	0.39	0.316	0.82
Gender development index	0.952	0.912	0.987
Maternal mortality	504	589	4
GINI index	42.6	54	32.4
Population under UNHCR mandate	297	774,141	580,898
INFORM index	5.1	7.2	2.3
Fragile states index	80.4	94.3	30.9
Public social protection		13.4	100
Official development assistance received	756.17	1907.78	

b. Humanitarian law instruments ratified by the country

Humanitarian law instruments	Status
Mine ban treaty	Ratification 16/09/1999
Convention on Cluster Munitions	Ratification 03/12/2008
United Nations Convention on the Rights of Persons with Disabilities	Ratification 12/05/2015

c. Geopolitical analysis

Social, cultural and demographic context

A national census (the RGPH-3) was carried out in 2018, the first since 1993, and the results were published in 2021. The census confirmed that Madagascar has an annual



population growth rate of 3.01%. The population is young, with 64% of the population under 25 years of age. Life expectancy at birth is estimated at 67.64 years on average, with 69.72 years for women and 65.76 years for men. The average household has 4.3 members.

Political situation

In 2018, after acting as transitional president from 2009 to 2014, Andry Rajoelina was elected president after a peaceful campaign, with 55.6% of the vote. His political programme seeks to strengthen the economy by promoting a favourable climate for business, international trade and foreign direct investment. He also promises investment in education and, to a lesser extent, in public security. His involvement in the COVID pandemic was strong, but his handling of the health crisis has been criticised. The legislative elections also gave a large victory to the President's support platform, which controls all the institutional levers (the executive, the legislature and the judiciary), as well as the major cities, including the capital, Antananarivo. It also controls the media. The municipal elections on 27 November 2019 to elect 1,695 mayors followed the same trend, with the President's support platform winning in most towns and cities. However, a probable assassination attempt against the president was foiled in July 2021 – a sign of growing political tension.

Since Rajoelina came to power, several ministries have been merged to improve the efficiency of the public administration system. Press freedom has been curbed significantly. The communication law was revised in 2020 and many of its articles refer to the Criminal Code.

The government has adopted an Emergence Plan for 2019-2023, based on 13 objectives intended to stimulate growth and reduce poverty. This plan has not yet been made public.

In 2022, there was a slight reshuffle in the ministries, with some job cuts. The country is preparing for presidential elections in 2023.

Economic situation

According to the World Bank, Madagascar is the fourth poorest country in the world in terms of per capita wealth. The economic, social and fiscal shock caused by the Covid-19 crisis triggered a recession three times deeper in Madagascar than in the rest of Sub-Saharan Africa: disruptions in international trade and travel and containment measures caused a sharp drop in activity, with, according to the World Bank, a contraction of GDP by 7.1% and of income per capita by 9.8%. Moreover, it is estimated that the economic crisis linked to COVID-19 pushed more than 1.8 million additional people below the poverty line in 2020, raising the poverty



rate, i.e. the number of people living on less than US\$1.90/day,¹ to almost 81% for the year 2021 and 2022, a historic high for the country. It is estimated that it will take about 10 years for the country to return to its pre-COVID socio-economic state.

Fallout from the conflict in Ukraine, the third wave of the pandemic and extreme weather events in 2022 caused growth to slow to an estimated 2.6% in 2022 from 4.4% in 2021, and inflation to rise to an estimated 7.5% in 2022 from 5.4% in 2021. Vulnerable populations will be particularly exposed to economic difficulties and poverty traps. A slight recovery in economic activity is expected in 2023 and should result in a reduction in the poverty rate, expected to remain slightly below 80%.

Finally, despite an estimated increase in the budget deficit to 7.2% of GDP in 2022, "the risks of debt distress are considered moderate, assuming reforms to boost domestic revenue mobilisation and prudent public financial management" (World Bank, 2022, 18). According to the IMF, public and publicly guaranteed external debt (PPG) remains sustainable, with the external debt overhang assessed as "moderate".

As a reminder, Madagascar ranks 164th on the HDI² and remains a country stigmatised by poverty with 81% of the population still living below the international poverty line of US\$1.90/day in 2021. The Malagasy economy is dominated by the agricultural sector. Indeed, the RGPH-3 estimates that 75.8% of jobs created are in this sector. Moreover, 75% of young people aged between 15 and 59 are engaged in this sector. According to the RGPH-3, it accounts for 85% of jobs in rural areas, compared to 24.2% in urban areas, where 65.1% of the workforce is concentrated in trade or service activities.

Before the pandemic, the World Bank estimated that the Malagasy economy was on an upward trajectory with a growth rate of 4.8%, a level not seen for ten years. This positive economic trend had been accompanied by an improved labour market situation and a slight decline in poverty. However, despite a relatively modest number of cases, the economic, social and fiscal impact of the coronavirus crisis has been more than brutal in Madagascar. People in urban areas have been particularly exposed to the economic hardship of massive job losses and inflation.

Covid-19 pandemic has also had disastrous consequences on livelihoods and household incomes. In its report "Impact of Covid-19 on household living conditions - wave 3" published in May 2021, INSTAT indicated that the impact of the crisis is

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¹ In September 2022 the international poverty line was updated from \$1.90 to \$2.15 per person per day.

² https://fr.countryeconomy.com/demographie/idh/madagascar.



primarily on household purchasing power. In August 2020, when wave 2 of the same report was published, 65.4% of households reported a significant fall in income. In addition, rising inflation coupled with falling incomes had caused more than 60% of households to report that they were not getting enough to eat. Furthermore, some 50% of households in urban areas had had trouble purchasing rice during the lockdown, mainly due to the sudden rise in prices.

The May 2021 report indicated that de-containment measures would lead to an increase in household incomes, but the impacts of the various crises mentioned above, including the third wave of COVID, may hinder this momentum. In January 2022, the World Bank estimated that 1.64 million people were acutely food insecure and in need of emergency food assistance in the south of the country due to the severe food crisis following three years of crop failure brought on by drought³. In addition, 309,000 children were acutely malnourished in 2022. This number is expected to increase as the country enters the critical lean season. The desperate situation in the deep south has driven households to take survival measures such as eating insects, raw red cactus, boiled leather and wild leaves. In addition, what was originally a rite of passage for young boys, cattle rustling by "Dahalo", has become a real scourge in the deep south. For example, in May 2022, 150 armed cattle thieves killed 19 villagers, burned 300 houses and stole 500 zebus in a district in the southwest of the country. Incidents of this kind, with tragic results, have multiplied in recent years, forcing people to migrate to escape the insecurity. It is suspected that the police and some political authorities sometimes work with the perpetrators. The current president has launched several military operations to combat this problem, but to little avail.

Summary of HI's work in the country

In 2017, HI celebrated 30 years in Madagascar, a period marked by five phases:

- o 1987 to 1996: Actions in the rehabilitation field only
- 1996 to 2005: Action Nord Sud period and work on structuring associations
- 2006 to 2014: Focus on disability
- 2015-2019: Multi-annual Operational Framework: extending the fields of intervention and the people participating in our projects.
- o 2020 : new country strategy 2020-2023

³ https://www.banquemondiale.org/fr/country/madagascar/overview.



Overview of current projects

Sectors in which HI is running projects, with a focus on the beneficiaries and partners



Project title and main sectors of intervention	Main activities:	Beneficiaries	Partners	Location	Project start and end date	Donors funding the project
Protection and risk reduction / Disaster risk reduction and climate change action	 Supporting Disaster Risk Management Committees Developing the capacities of the most vulnerable households to cope with a disaster with early warning systems Developing the inclusive disaster risk response capacities of students and the educational community. Rapid responses to the immediate and vital needs of populations affected by a disaster Developing an emergency Rehabilitation and Mental Health and Psychosocial Support pool 	754,985 people impacted by climate- related disasters	BNGRC, ACF, Save The Children, MEDAIR, SIF, Luxembourg Red Cross, Helvetas	 Boeny Diana Analamanga Menabe Atsimo	July 2021 –June 2023	ECHO
ATRIKA Protection and	Strengthening the positive impact for the most disaster-prone vulnerable populations through improved	• 329,600 people (164 841 women and	 National Risk and Disaster 	Boeny, Diana	January 2022 to December 2024	Deutsche Humanitäre Hilfe
risk reduction /	evidence and pilot projects on forecast-based early action, with a	164,759 men)	Managemen			



Disaster risk reduction and climate change action	focus on filling gaps and strengthening good practice for inclusive and people-centred anticipatory approaches.	Disaster risk management actors (BNGRC, regional and local DRR authorities and structures and civil society organisations including organisations of people with disabilities)	t Office (BNGRC) Organisation s of People with Disabilities (OPD) Civil society organisation s (CSOs) DRR actors and Zaction Anticipée			
Social & Inclusion / Economic services	 Supporting the creation and/or development of a self-employed professional project via the Personalised Social Support Mechanism (MASP) and by promoting jobs in the green and blue economy. Setting up a pilot support system working in the green or blue sectors and willing to recruit one or more people with disabilities in their company Supporting and making vocational training more inclusive Developing an inclusive value chain approach for farmers and 	 1,030 people living with a disability 570 young people with disabilities as part of becoming autonomous 30 economic actors (private and public sector), institutions (local authorities and training centres) and civil society 	Vonona, AFHAM	Atsinanana, Analanjirofo	December 2021 – April 2024	UNPD USAID



	farmer groups and the private sector Supporting the community and people with disabilities in setting up Village Savings and Credit Associations. Capacity building of training teams in communication techniques and inclusive training methods. Adapting the "Lifeskills" programme for the inclusion of disability Creating/strengthening a multistakeholder consultation platform Implementing an individual and collective emergency package (Covid-19 and natural disaster response). Developing collaborations and networking opportunities for OPDs and people with disabilities					
MANONGA Social & Inclusion / Education services	 Supporting partner schools for the deployment of inclusive educational training and for the implementation of inclusive action plans; Supporting schools in making adjustments for pupils with 	 1,330 children and young people with disabilities 8240 parents and families of students with disabilities; 1320 teachers; 	Ministry of National Education Fanarenana	Atsinanana, Analanjirofo	January 2022 to December 2025	Agence Française de Développement (AFD) Fondation Pierre Bellon



	special needs (adapted equipment, technical support for adapting examination papers, etc.); • Supporting teachers in strengthening inclusive teaching methods; • Organising advocacy events at local and national level on the theme of inclusion; • Supporting the Ministry of National Education and the Ministry of Technical Education and Vocational Training in facilitating the National Platform for Inclusive Education, updating inclusive framework documents and deploying inclusive education.	 83 parents associations (approx. 415 people); 320 people from the supervisory ministries and regional structures. 				
Anjaratsara II Health & Prevention	 Skills development for healthcare personnel Strengthening the community referral system Creating or revitalising national associations of people with epilepsy. Psychosocial support for patients and their families. Integrating and detecting epilepsy during school medical check-ups and support for the 	 400 people with epilepsy 20 doctors 20 paramedical staff 	Ministry of Public Health	Analanjirofo Boeny	January 2020 –July 2022	UCB



	 inclusion of children with epilepsy in school. Raising awareness of communities and stakeholders about epilepsy and the rights of people with epilepsy. Raising awareness of mutual health organisations and other funding schemes for vulnerable people on the need for coverage of epilepsy. 					
HIFALI Health & Prevention	 Strengthening care (including emergency care) for people with mental health problems, in particular through: Mobile consultations; Strengthening the capacities of actors involved in care; Rollout of detection and referral mechanisms; The promotion of users' rights; Raising awareness to mental health The fight against stigmatisation and identification of actors and associations engaged in these 	 2,460 individuals and 200 mental health structures and actors, including: 80 health professionals 280 community health workers 100 members of local associations 200 member services of the 26 community-based self-help networks 	Ministry of Public Health	Boeny, Analamanga	January 2022 to December 2025	Agence Française de Développement (AFD)
	actions;Advocacy for the development of national mental health training;	• 2000 vulnerable people				



	 Supporting the Mental Health Service in updating the National Mental Health and Epilepsy Plan and strengthening care services; 					
MARINA Health & Prevention / Mental health and psychosocial support	 Implementing reception workshop Setting up a complaints system Training prison sector actors in psychosocial support Supporting/accompanying actors in psychosocial support and life projects. Organising sport and socioeducational activities 	• prisons • > 80% of inmates evaluated	 Ministry of Public Health Ministry of Justice Ministry of the Population Madagascar Pasteur Institute Association Catholique des Prisons PPI 	Interventions in projects: Tana Mahajanga Tamatave Manakanra HI interventions: Tana Mahajanga Tamatave	October 2019 to December 2022	Expertise France 5% Initiative
CASIMIR Health & Prevention /	 KAP study and mapping of health actors and services Revision of training curricula and training of health and rehabilitation professionals Training social workers in the prevention of risk factors, detection of deficiencies and referral to health structures. Community-based rehabilitation training 	 154 new health professionals trained 20 social workers 1,620 local rehabilitation service users 2,580 beneficiaries of a minimum package of activities in maternal and child health 	 Ministry of Public Health Ministry of the Population, social welfare and promotion of women 	Atsimo Andrefana	January 2018 to December 2022	Lux Min of Foreign Affairs Fondation Roi Baudouin



	 Implementing the minimum package of activities in maternal and child health. Designing and implementing a financial access support mechanism Raising a community and OPD awareness 	 500 women and/or children having access to funding systems 19,200 young people informed on health issues 				
Wish2Action Health & Prevention / Sexual and Reproductive Health (SRH)	 By means of a study, identifying barriers to access to SRH services Training in inclusive SRH services and advocacy for partners and organisations of people with disabilities; Facilitating the participation of OPDs and people with disabilities in Steering Committees engaged in SRH; Support to the updating or drafting of framework documents 	Men, women and young people Especially the most underprivileged and vulnerable	Marie Stopes Madagascar (lead agency) Options Development Media International	At national level	March 2019 - March 2024	Foreign Commonwealth & Development Department (FCDO) Formerly DFID
Mahatsangy Social & Inclusion / Economic services Social services	 Strengthening and personalised support for partners in improving their activities in line with their social mission; in their partnership and advocacy strategy; Strengthening their economic resilience by creating IGAs 	7 partner organisations	UNAHM Orchidées blanches Fanarenana	 Ana Analamanga Vakinankaratr a Amoron'i Mania Haute Matsiatra 	January 2022 to December 2024	DCI Monaco



	through a waterfall co-financing system; optimising the profitability of IGAs; supporting the setting up of projects and the search for funding; making funds available for awareness-raising activities; • Boosting and developing the ZARA network		Ephata AJFACE AMIS	• Diana		
FAMAHA Social & Inclusion / Education services Social services	 CSO capacity-building: Dynamising the Disability Observatory; Advocacy actions; Setting up regional multistakeholder committees; Contributing to the new National Disability Inclusion Plan; Incorporating the WG into InStat; Inclusive education and Mental Health actions 	 Project implementation partners People with disabilities Students, teachers, FRAMs (parent committees) and FEFFIs (school management committees) of the targeted schools and colleges Students and individuals reached by awareness raising on the impact of addiction at the targeted schools People with epilepsy supported through the 	CONAMEPT COPH PFPH AUM AFHAM UNAPHAAM	 Diana Atsinanana, Boeny, Analamanga 	December 2020-June 2023	NORAD



MAHARO Social & Inclusion /	Providing essential supplies and technical support to farmers and fishermen.	Mechanism for Personalized Social Support (MASP) Members of partner OPDs People with disabilities and OPDs, through the setting up of multi-stakeholder consultation mechanisms: Disability Observatory and multi-stakeholder consultation forums 20,000 households (or 80,000 people)	CRS (lead)	Androy Region	September 2019 to September 2024	USAID CRS
Economic services	Promoting adaptation and mitigation for sustainable food security and resilience.					
TIALONGO Rehabilitation services Social & Inclusion / Economic services	 Identifying the beneficiaries, their situation, their needs and their geographical distance from the supply points; Determining food aid modalities (in-kind support, vouchers and cash transfers); 	 1,408 people with disabilities and their households 234 children without disabilities under the age of 5 suffering from malnutrition and their households: 	N/A	Atsimo Andrefana Districts of: Tulear I Tulear II Betioky Ampanihy	Avril 2022 – Mars 2023	Ambassade de France MAELUX



Protection and risk reduction / Inclusive humanitarian action

- Caring for children through stimulation therapy and facilitating access to the population;
- Raising awareness of humanitarian actors to the importance of this therapy;
- Supporting health professionals and community workers through follow-up training.
- 4 physical therapists and 1 occupational therapists;
- 60 new community workers and 23 health workers
- 116 children with disabilities suffering from malnutrition and their parents

Donors

ECHO	Aide humanitaire allemande	PNUD	USAID
* * * * * * * * *	Deutsche Humanitaire Hilfe Aktion Deutschland Hilft	U N	USAID FROM THE AMERICAN PEOPLE
	Germany's Relief Coalition	DP	
		Empowered lives. Resilient nations.	
AFD	Fondation Pierre Bellon	UCB	Expertise France Initiative 5%
			EXPERTISE FRANCE



MINISTÈRE DE L'EUROPE ET DES AFFAIRES ÉTRANGÈRES Liberté Egalité Fraternité	Agir pour le développement Rumain FONDATION PIERRE BELLON	ueb	
MAE Lux	Foundation Roi Baudoin	FCDO	DCI Monaco
LUXEMBOURG AID & DEVELOPMENT	B Fondation Roi Baudouin Agir ensemble pour une société meilleure	UKaid from the British people	Gouvernement Princier
NORAD	CRS	Ambassade de France	
Norad	CATHOLIC RELIEF SERVICES	MINISTÈRE DE L'EUROPE ET DES AFFAIRES ÉTRANGÈRES Liberté L'égalité Fraternité	