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Scene of a food distribution in Katravitra Fokontany, Commune of Marovato (Tsihombe District). 401 people received 13.5 metric tons of food during this session, funded by USAID. This little girl, accompanying her mother, shows off the fortified Corn Soy Blend (CSB+) they just received. Each food recipient received Corn Soy Blend (CSB+) , sorghum, yellow split peas and vegetable oil for the equivalent of a two-week family ration. Photo by Sedera Ramanitra/CRS

Catholic Relief Services in Southern Madagascar

About 1.14 million of 2.7 million people in the Deep South are experiencing high levels of acute food insecurity (IPC Phase 3 or above). While the CRS-led activities in southern Madagascar are multisectoral, the intensity of the drought prevailing in the region and the extent of food insecurity is alarming. There are significant gaps not covered by humanitarian actions and more resources are required.

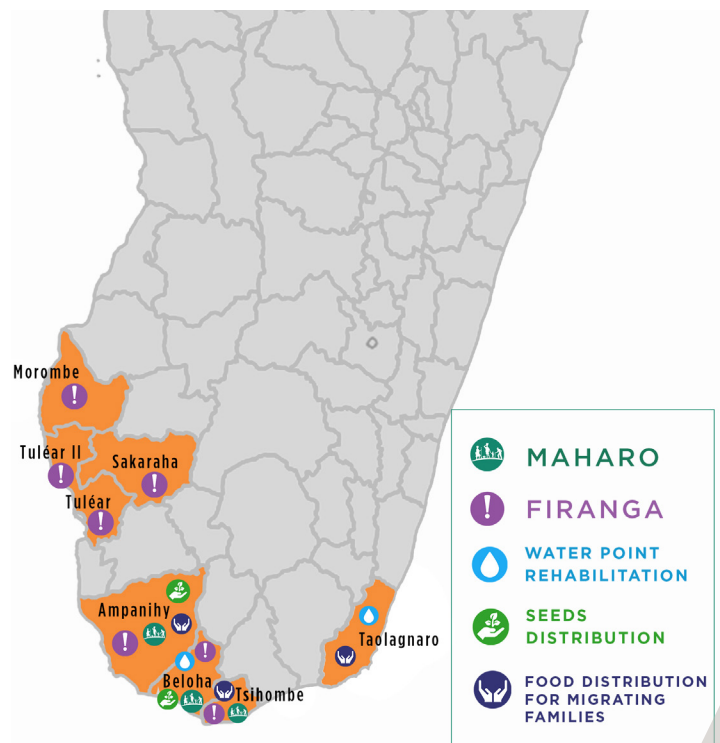
JANUARY-MARCH 2021

Catholic Relief Services (CRS) continues to operate through the Maharo (2019 - 2025 / \$45 million) and Firanga (Oct 2020 - Sep 2021 / \$10 million) projects, funded by the U.S. Agency for International Development (USAID) in the Androy and Atsimo Andrefana regions of Madagascar (Tsihombe, Beloha, Ampanihy Ouest, Sakaraha, Toliara II, and Morombe Districts).

Project objectives are to reduce food insecurity among vulnerable households as a response of the prolonged drought and to implement sustainable solutions to improve communities' resilience.

An additional \$100,000 was granted by USAID for the rehabilitation of 13 water points in Beloha District, with completion scheduled for September 2021.

CRS has also mobilized \$100,000 for the Dioceses to distribute food and seeds in response to the food insecurity situation in the Districts of Fort-Dauphin, Tsihombe, Beloha and Ampanihy.





In March 2021, CRS provided a 15-day food ration to 692 households from Ankilibory and Emima fokontany, District of Ampanihy. Under the project, food is distributed to the most vulnerable households, pregnant and lactating women, children under two, and participants of food-for-assets. Photo by Dera Razafimbolatiana for CRS.

OUR ACHIEVEMENTS



EMERGENCY RESPONSE

44 640 Households received food in the communes of Tranoroa, Marolinta, Behabobo, Marovato, Faux Cap, Ankilivalo, Androka, Tranovao, Anjampaly, Antaritarika, Behazomanga, Imongy, Nikoly, Belafika Haut, Ejeda and Gogogogo.

3 903 Metric tons of food were distributed

10,19km Of feeder roads repaired (FFA - Food for Assets)



NUTRITION

23 887 Children participated in growth monitoring and promotion activities

18 151 Households received additional food protection rations during the lean season

31 Tons of Plumpy Supp were given to children suffering from Moderate Acute Malnutrition (MAM)

2 330 Community agents were trained in treatment of Moderate Acutely Malnourished (MAM) children

134 Lead Mothers (*Reny Mpitarika*) were trained to convey nutrition-related messages to community mothers



GOUVERNANCE

60 Communes have formed the core of their Local Consultation Structures – *Structures Locales de Concertation*)

19 Local Development Agents (ADL – *Agents de Développement Local*) were put in place



AGRICULTURE AND LIVELIHOODS

- 442 Lead Farmers (*Mpamokatra Mpitarika*) were identified
- 1 122 Vulnerable households received seeds
- 118 Demonstration plots were established
- 488 Fishermen benefited from improved equipment
- 17 828 People joined Savings and Internal Lending Communities (SILC)



Members of a Savings and Internal Lending Communities (SILC) group hold their weekly meeting in a village in the commune of Itampolo, Ampanihy District. They have formed a group of about 20 members to make small weekly savings and loans according to their own internal rules. This is a financial education activity that allows communities to create micro-investment opportunities and thus improve their income. This activity is carried out under the Maharo project, funded by USAID and led by CRS in partnership with the Diocesan Development Council of Tulear (CDD-U) in the Ampanihy District. Photo by Sedera Ramanitra/CRS.



NATURAL RESOURCES, RISK AND DISASTER MANAGEMENT

- 146 Risk and Disaster Management Committees established
- 130 Lead Farmers trained in soil erosion protection



YOUNG AND GENDER

- 7 660 Young people joined 383 youth groups
- 766 Young leaders were selected
- 156 Gender Leaders (*Miranjaka*) were identified



LITERACY

3 876 People participated in literacy courses in the District of Ampanihy



GOVERNEMENT

REGIONAL : CRS participated in coordination meetings

NATIONAL : CRS signed a memoranda of understanding with the MAEP and the MPPSPF

OUTLOOK FOR THE NEXT QUARTER

- CRS received \$150,000 for cash transfers to vulnerable households in the Beloha District for the next quarter
- CRS received an additional \$150,000 for the distribution of seeds (legumes, cassava cuttings, sweet potatoes, and vegetable seeds) in the Districts of Beloha, Tsihombe, and Ampanihy over the next three months.



A man drives an oxcart on a market-feeder road built by community members in Marovato, Tsihombe District, Madagascar. In these areas, villages are often remote. People travel more than 30 kilometers by oxcart, or even walk on foot carrying heavy loads, to reach the village centers where markets, clinics and schools are located. The journey can take from several hours to a full day. To reduce the time it takes to reach essential health services, markets and schools, the USAID-funded Firanga project, led by CRS, distributes food to community members in exchange for building or repairing simple roads. Community members work five hours a day to create feeder roads wide enough for ox carts, cars and trucks. For this Marovato road, travel time has been reduced to an average of 2 to 3 hours. Photo by Dooshima Tsee/CRS.