

# HUMANITARIAN ACTION

*Red Cross, Transparency International and Emergency Response - Madagascar*

**⚠ Confidential Document** - General presentation of interventions. For detailed emergency reports, needs assessments and operational protocols, please contact the author.

## Overview

**Humanitarian Action** represents field commitment to respond to crises, natural disasters and emergencies in Madagascar. Through my experience with the **Malagasy Red Cross, Transparency International Initiative Madagascar (TI-MG)** and other emergency interventions, I have contributed to saving lives, restoring dignity and strengthening the resilience of affected communities.

## Humanitarian Context in Madagascar

Madagascar faces multiple recurrent crises: devastating cyclones, prolonged droughts, floods, epidemics (malaria, plague, COVID-19), chronic food insecurity and population displacement. These crises affect millions of people, particularly the most vulnerable. A rapid, coordinated response based on humanitarian principles is essential to minimize suffering and rebuild local capacities.

**50,000+**

PEOPLE ASSISTED

**15**

EMERGENCY RESPONSES

**8**

REGIONS COVERED

**2018-2024**

PERIOD OF ACTION

## Core Humanitarian Principles



### HUMANITY

Save lives and reduce suffering



### IMPARTIALITY

Assistance based on needs only



### NEUTRALITY

No political stance



### INDEPENDENCE

Autonomy of humanitarian action

## Partner Organizations

- **Malagasy Red Cross (CRM):** Emergency response, first aid, community health, resilience
- **Transparency International Initiative Madagascar (TI-MG):** Transparency in humanitarian aid, anti-corruption, accountability
- **UN Agencies:** Coordination with OCHA, WFP, UNICEF, WHO
- **International NGOs:** Collaboration with humanitarian organizations active in Madagascar
- **Government and local authorities:** Coordination with BNGRC (National Office for Risk and Disaster Management)

## Types of Emergency Interventions

### 1. Natural Disasters

- Cyclones (Enawo, Batsirai, Emnati, Freddy)
- Floods and landslides
- Droughts (Grand South)
- Rapid needs assessments (MIRA)
- Emergency distribution (food, shelter, NFI)

### 2. Health Emergencies

- Bubonic plague epidemics
- Malaria outbreaks
- COVID-19 response
- Severe acute malnutrition
- Emergency vaccination campaigns

### 3. Food Insecurity

- Emergency food distribution

### 4. Protection and Shelter

- Temporary displacement sites

- Nutritional assistance
- Cash transfers
- Emergency school feeding
- Livelihood rehabilitation
- Emergency shelter kits
- Child protection
- Gender-based violence (GBV)
- Psychosocial support

## Crisis Management Cycle

### Humanitarian Intervention Phases

- **Phase 1 - Preparedness:** Risk mapping, contingency plans, pre-positioning of stocks
- **Phase 2 - Early warning:** Weather monitoring, alert systems, team mobilization
- **Phase 3 - Rapid assessment:** MIRA (Multi-sectoral Initial Rapid Assessment), urgent needs identification
- **Phase 4 - Emergency response:** Food distribution, safe water, shelter, medical care, protection
- **Phase 5 - Early recovery:** Infrastructure rehabilitation, livelihood restoration
- **Phase 6 - Long-term resilience:** Disaster risk reduction, climate change adaptation

## Malagasy Red Cross: Role and Contributions

- **First aid and rescue:** First responder training, field interventions
- **Humanitarian aid distribution:** Food, hygiene kits, shelter, non-food items
- **Community health:** Vaccination campaigns, health awareness, epidemic control
- **Emergency WASH:** Water points, emergency latrines, hygiene kit distribution
- **Restoring Family Links (RFL):** Missing persons search, family reunification
- **Disaster preparedness:** Community training, simulation exercises
- **Community volunteering:** Mobilization of thousands of volunteers nationwide

## Transparency International Initiative Madagascar (TI-MG)

## Transparency and Accountability in Humanitarian Aid

- **Anti-corruption:** Diversion of humanitarian aid, overcharging, nepotism
- **Complaint mechanisms:** Hotlines, complaint boxes, participatory audits
- **Distribution transparency:** Public beneficiary lists, clear targeting criteria
- **Citizen monitoring:** Community observers, oversight committees
- **Civic education:** Awareness of beneficiary rights, complaint processes
- **Advocacy:** Call for transparency in emergency contracts, public budgets
- **Institutional strengthening:** Support to control structures, anti-corruption training

## Tools and Methodologies

- **MIRA (Multi-sectoral Initial Rapid Assessment):** Rapid multi-sectoral assessment
- **Sphere / Humanitarian Standards:** Minimum standards in humanitarian response
- **Cash and Voucher Assistance (CVA):** Cash assistance and vouchers
- **Vulnerability and Capacity Assessment (VCA):** Vulnerability and capacity analysis
- **Protection Mainstreaming:** Protection integration in all interventions
- **Accountability to Affected Populations (AAP):** Accountability to affected populations
- **SGBV (Sexual and Gender-Based Violence) Prevention:** GBV prevention

## Targeting and Prioritization

### Priority Groups

- Children under 5 years
- Pregnant and lactating women
- Elderly people
- People with disabilities
- Female or child-headed households

### Vulnerability Criteria

- Total loss of livelihoods
- Habitat destruction
- Acute malnutrition
- Chronic diseases
- Geographic isolation

- Displaced persons

- Absence of social safety net

## **Coordination and Collaboration**

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Effective humanitarian interventions require close coordination among all actors. Active participation in **humanitarian clusters** (Nutrition, WASH, Health, Shelter, Protection, Logistics), inter-agency coordination meetings, and government coordination mechanisms (BNGRC). Complementarity of interventions and avoidance of duplication are essential to maximize impact with limited resources.

## **Lessons Learned and Best Practices**

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- **Preparedness saves lives:** Investment in preparedness reduces disaster impact
- **Local-first approach:** Communities are first responders, strengthening them is crucial
- **Cash when possible:** Cash assistance preserves dignity and stimulates local economy
- **Do No Harm:** Assess potential negative impacts of assistance
- **Integrate resilience from the start:** Emergency response must lay foundations for recovery
- **Communication with communities:** Transparent information, feedback mechanisms
- **Data and evidence:** Rigorous data collection to adjust interventions
- **Flexibility and adaptation:** Crises evolve, programs must adapt quickly

## **Impact of Interventions**

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- Over 50,000 people assisted in emergency situations
- Reduced mortality and morbidity related to crises
- Rapid restoration of access to essential services (water, health, shelter)
- Strengthened protection of vulnerable groups
- Enhanced local response capacities

- Improved transparency and accountability in aid
- Reduced diversion and corruption
- Communities more resilient to future shocks

## **Humanitarian-Development-Peace Nexus**

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Humanitarian action cannot be limited to emergency response. Bridges must be built to long-term development and contribute to social peace. Interventions therefore integrate elements of early recovery, resilience building, and social cohesion to ensure lasting impacts and break cycles of crisis.

### Interested in This Experience?

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Contact me for emergency reports, needs assessments and operational protocols

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Presentation document - Public version

Detailed emergency reports and operational protocols available upon request