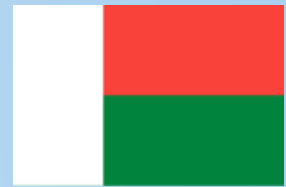


# Republic of Madagascar



## Participant in the Study Visit

**Mrs. Ianja Raolisoa**, Head of the Food Security and Nutrition Department at Madagascar's Ministry of Agriculture and Livestock (MINAE), National Focal Point for the Food Systems. She serves as Chair of the SUN Governmental Platform, and Coordinator of the Food Security and Livelihoods Cluster (SAMS). Her work focuses on coordinating multisectoral interventions for food security and nutrition. She collaborates closely with national and international stakeholders to develop and implement strategies. Her efforts aim to strengthen food system resilience and fight malnutrition across Madagascar.

## Nutrition Facts

According to SOFI 2025, there has been some advancement in lowering the rate of low birth weight—at 18.7% in 2020—and increasing the exclusive breastfeeding rates, where 54.4% of infants aged 0 to 5 months were exclusively breastfed in 2023, compared to only 41.9% in 2012. The national implementation score of legal measures related to the implementation of the International Code of Marketing of Breast-milk Substitutes is 73 (out of a maximum of 100). Progress has been slow in reducing anemia among women of reproductive age, with 37.2% of women aged 15 to 49 still affected in 2023, compared to 32.2% in 2012.

In terms of stunting, progress has been achieved, with 38.4% of children under five still affected in 2024, compared to 48.2% in 2012. Similarly, some progress has been made in reducing wasting, yet 7.2% of children under five continue to be affected in 2024, exceeding the regional average for Eastern Africa of 4.8%. On a more positive note, the prevalence of overweight children under five remained low in 2024, at 2.3%, but with an increase from the 1.6% rate observed in 2012.

Regarding diet-related non-communicable diseases (NCDs), Madagascar has demonstrated some progress. Obesity affected only 4.3% of adults in 2022, despite the increase from the 2.3% rate estimated in 2012. The country score card for tracking progress towards adopting and implementing policies towards reducing sugars intake shows that Madagascar has much room for improvement.

## Progress Towards Nutrition Integration

Efforts to anchor nutrition action at the Prime Minister's Office continue, with revitalized government platforms through advocacy activities engaging all Secretaries General of

ministries and identifying focal points in each ministry. The National Nutrition Council and its Permanent Bureau have been established, acting as the board of the National Nutrition Office.

Madagascar has established the National Nutrition Policy (2022–2030), the National Multisectoral Action Plan for Nutrition (2022–2026), and the National Monitoring-Evaluation, Accountability and Learning Plan for Nutrition. Additionally, the Roadmap of the Social Safety Nets project was officially launched during the national conference on food self-sufficiency in June 2022.

SUN platforms are active in the country and participate in virtual coordination meetings, though coordination requires improvement to enhance information sharing and complementarity. Some platforms, such as the civil society platform, have been decentralized to 23 regions, while others remain centralized in the capital, Antananarivo.

### **National Nutrition Policy**

Madagascar's National Nutrition Policy (2022–2030) guides the country's efforts to reduce malnutrition through a multisectoral approach involving health, agriculture, education, water, sanitation, hygiene, and social protection. Its main goals are to reduce all forms of malnutrition, improve access to nutritious food and essential services, and strengthen coordination and resource mobilization.

The policy is overseen by the National Nutrition Council (CNN) and coordinated by the National Nutrition Office (ONN), with support from government ministries, civil society, and development partners. It is supported by the National Multisectoral Action Plan for Nutrition (2022–2026), which details the implementation framework.

Madagascar has reaffirmed its commitment to accelerating nutrition efforts ahead of the 2025 Nutrition for Growth Summit, aiming to meet the 2030 Sustainable Development Goals related to hunger and nutrition.

**Madagascar is not yet a member of the  
Global Alliance Against Hunger and Poverty.**

### **Engagement with the Healthy Diets Coalition**

Madagascar has been a member of the Healthy Diets Coalition since its inception in 2021. The focal points sit in different ministries, ensuring coherence across sectors. In July 2025, Madagascar and the Coalition co-organized the side event “Breaking Silos and Fueling Change: Aligning Nutrition and Climate for Food System Transformation” at the UNFSS+4 in Addis Ababa. The country highlighted how the National Multi-sectoral Nutrition Action Plan (NMNAP) supports food systems transformation to tackle food insecurity and child

malnutrition. Examples included integrating biodiversity in its NDC, promoting home gardens, sharing seeds, and applying smart irrigation systems. Madagascar also underlined its political commitment, noting that the nutrition budget rose from 1.22% in 2021 to 3.5%, alongside N4G commitments to mainstream nutrition in agriculture.

### N4G Commitments (as of April 2025)

- Nutrition-Sensitive Food Systems Development Projects
- Strategic coordination for multisectoral nutrition
- Food and nutrition security, a priority in the face of climate change
- Reduction of chronic malnutrition
- Budget allocation of the Malagasy State for the implementation of the PNAMN
- Reduction of acute malnutrition

### Remaining Challenges

Madagascar is advancing in its efforts to address nutrition challenges through integration of nutrition into multisectoral policies and coordinated governance. Despite persistent issues like high stunting rates and anemia among women, nutrition remains a national priority, with ongoing efforts to improve outcomes for vulnerable populations, especially children and women.

Challenges remain in multistakeholder collaboration due to reliance on voluntary work and the lack of structures for maintaining minimum functioning in some platforms. They continue to engage in coordination meetings, but the need for improved collaboration and resource alignment remains. A funding strategy is planned to empower these platforms alongside the development of new strategic framework documents.

Strengthening mutual accountability and empowering decentralized platforms through adequate support are priorities.

Healthy diet scores to eliminate transfat, reduce sugar and sodium intake show that there is much potential for improvement through policy action.