

## Alert note

*Madagascar, Cyclones (Fytia & Gezani), 13<sup>th</sup> February 2026*

Completed by: Fenitra (SAF/FJKM)

Date completed: 12/02/2026

Forum: ACT Madagascar Forum

Type of emergency: Cyclone / Flood (Rapid Onset)

Date of emergency (if rapid onset):

- Cyclone FYTIA: 31 January 2026
- Cyclone GEZANI: 10 February 2026

### Funding Survey

If the forum indicates a plan to launch an appeal, we request funding members to please fill out this [survey form](#) which will help the **Emergency Steering Committee** assess the funding environment for this response. Please respond to this survey *within 24 hours of Alert publication*.

## 1. The nature of the emergency

Madagascar has been hit by several cyclones over the last two months, causing damage, according to [Reuters](#).

Cyclone Fytia struck the west and northwest coast of Madagascar on January 31, 2026, with violent winds of over 150 km/h, gusts reaching 250 km/h, and torrential rains, causing devastating flash floods and forcing tens of thousands of people to evacuate to emergency shelters.

Cyclone Fytia formed in the Mozambique Channel on January 30<sup>th</sup>, 2026, reaching tropical cyclone status before making landfall on January 31<sup>st</sup> in the district of Soalala (Boeny Region) in the Northwest of Madagascar. At the time of impact, the cyclone was extremely dangerous, with sustained winds of 150 km/h and gusts reaching 210 km/h.

Cyclone Fytia moved southeast at a speed of 18 km/h and swept across the Central Highlands on February 1<sup>st</sup>, 2026, causing massive rainfall, then moved off the coast of the Atsinanana Region, leaving behind waterlogged soil and weakened infrastructure.

On 6<sup>th</sup> February, cyclone Gezani formed, rapidly developing into an intense tropical cyclone, and struck the city of Toamasina on February 10, 2026. The violence of the impact was characterized by average winds of 180km/h and devastating gusts reaching 250km/h, causing major structural damage on the east coast.

Cyclone Gezani maintained rapid momentum, moving from east to west at a speed of 25 km/h. After crossing the central regions, the cyclone continued its trajectory toward the Mozambique Channel, where it made landfall between Maintirano and Morondava on February 11<sup>th</sup>, 2026.

A few days later, Cyclone Gezani reached its maximum intensity when it hit Toamasina, the main port on the east coast, with gusts of up to 190-200 km/h. The damage caused by Gezani was considerable, as the island was still trying to recover from the passage of Fytia. This rapid succession of two major tropical cyclones highlighted Madagascar's extreme vulnerability to extreme weather events.

Cyclone Gezani is expected to regain strength over the Mozambique Channel, potentially returning as an intense tropical cyclone ([RFI](#)).

## 2. The impact and scale of the emergency

This would be a medium emergency due to the rapid succession and short interval between the two consecutive cyclones, the scale of devastation caused, creating a complex emergency ([IOM](#)). The Madagascar government has declared a state of emergency, and the current situation exceeds Madagascar's capabilities to respond ([BBC](#)). The short interval between the two disasters limits households' resilience and complicates relief operations, as the areas affected by FYTIA have become the areas affected by GEZANI.

On 12th February, more rainfall and strong winds are still expected in central-western Madagascar. A red alert for strong winds and flooding has been issued ([ReliefWeb](#)).

#### Geographical Areas

Cyclone Fytia hit the northwestern regions and the capital (Antananarivo), while Cyclone Gezani hit Toamasina, the country's second largest city. Based on preliminary assessments and early situation analysis, Cyclones Fytia and Gezani most affected regions include the eastern and central parts of the country, namely Ambato Boeny, Atsinanana, and Analanjirofo, and potentially in the districts of Toamasina and Ankerihitra, consistent with the impacts of past cyclones in Madagascar ([UNOCHA](#)).

Numbers and characteristics of people affected.

#### Destruction of Homes, Education, and Health Services

The Cyclone has affected communities living in the coastal and low-lying areas of Madagascar.

The flooding and strong winds brought about by the cyclone have caused approximately 41,700 homes to be destroyed (6,000 completely), and there remains a risk of landslides in the affected areas([AfricaNews](#)).

Social services have been paralyzed, 1,580 classrooms and 176 health centres destroyed, hampering access to education and health services. The cold chain in health centres has been disrupted, threatening vaccine stocks and exacerbating poor health access. In urban areas such as Toamansin, electricity and other communication have been cut off due to heavy rainfall (exceeding 150 mm in 24 hours).

#### WASH

The latrines are overflowing, posing a risk of cholera and other waterborne diseases. Traditional wells have also been contaminated. The displaced are residing in overcrowded shelters, which lack lighting, increasing the risk of gender-based violence and providing several protection risks.

#### Food Security

The cyclone has brought disruptions to food chains, and more than 10,000 hectares of rice fields have been destroyed, and cash crops such as cloves and vanilla will deplete incomes for several years to come.

#### Infrastructure

The port of Toamasina and the silting of agricultural infrastructure raise the fear of inflation of basic commodities. Madagascar's disaster management office has evacuated dozens of injured people and hundreds of residents from a district around Toamasina, home to 400,000 people. According to [BNGRC](#), the following information has been compiled:

Cyclone	Fytia	Gezani
No. of deaths	12	36
Missing Persons	01	06
Seriously Injured	07	374
People affected	60,758	257,222
Destroyed Houses	1952	37,253
Destroyed classrooms	224	48

### 3. Local and national capacity

Thousands of people have been forced from their homes across northeastern Madagascar ([ReliefWeb](#)). The affected are displaced and living in precarious living conditions as families have sought refuge in evacuation centres, schools, and community buildings as displacement continues. Rescue operations are underway, but are currently very dangerous due to the saturated soils caused by the heavy rainfall ([Relief Web](#)).

The Malagasy weather service (DGM) is sharing climate information. SAF/FJKM is working closely with the National Risk and Disaster Management Office (BNGRC), which is overseeing coordination of the emergency together with UNOCHA, also coordinating the response and collecting pre-positioned stocks to support in the response with reports of pre-positioned food stocks (122,888 kg) available to support approximately 9,831 households (official BNGRC data).

The Disaster Response Stakeholders Committee (CRIC) has set up an operation centre and is taking stock of the capacities available with each stakeholder and the operationalization of the humanitarian responses with the clusters (such as health, education, nutrition, shelter, etc.).

IOM field teams are supporting coordination, needs assessments, and humanitarian planning in affected districts, working closely with national and local authorities ([Relief Web](#)).

At the government level, the funding sources that may be available to support a response include a Contingency fund available at the treasury, an emergency loan from the World Bank accessible in case of a major disaster (offered at a concessional rate), and insurance (African Risk Capacity (ARC) tropical cyclone insurance policy).

The UN and international NGOs may also access CERF funds, other funding sources like the START Network and pre-positioned stock by UNOCHA, WFP, and UNICEF, although, looking at the scale of the disaster, they are insufficient according to the government. Humanitarian partners operating within sectoral and cluster coordination mechanisms.

Coordination regarding emergency evacuation and displacement through thematic groups is ongoing, and each actor is required to coordinate on the different distributions to be carried out, as well as the zones to avoid double-counting

The UN Central Emergency Fund ([CERF](#)) has allocated USD 3 million to six UN agencies in Madagascar in pre-arranged finance for anticipatory action to help partners support more than 93,000 persons. UN agencies and NGOs are called upon to support emergency responses in the areas of food aid, health, water, sanitation and hygiene, shelter, and protection, as access permits.

Anticipatory and rapid response measures developed with OCHA are being implemented where possible, including pre-positioning of supplies and preparedness measures.

### Key needs and gaps

The most critical needs anticipated include emergency shelter and non-food items, as a significant number of households are expected to experience flooding, damage from storm-force winds or gales, partial or destruction of their homes, resulting in displacement and precarious living conditions.

WASH needs are expected to be substantial due to contamination of water sources and damage to sanitation facilities, increasing the risk of water-borne diseases and requiring urgent access to safe drinking water, hygiene kits, and temporary sanitation solutions.

Food security and livelihoods are major concerns, as flooding of agricultural land, particularly rice fields, is likely to reduce food availability and household income, necessitating emergency food assistance and, where feasible, cash-based interventions.

Health services are at risk of disruption due to damage to health facilities and access constraints, highlighting the need for mobile health services, essential medicines, and disease surveillance.

Protection risks, including those related to displacement, gender-based violence and child protection, are expected to increase, particularly for women, children, older persons and people with disabilities.

However, significant gaps remain, notably in the scale of pre-positioned stocks relative to the projected needs, the capacity to rapidly reach remote and flooded areas, and the availability of resources to sustain assistance beyond the immediate emergency phase.

Information gaps persist regarding verified numbers of affected and displaced people, sector-specific damage, and disaggregated data by gender, age, and vulnerability, as comprehensive multisectoral rapid assessments are still ongoing. These gaps are expected to be progressively addressed within the first one to two weeks following impact, as access improves and joint government-humanitarian assessments are completed, enabling more precise targeting and prioritisation of response interventions.

Please indicate whether you are considering:

	Indicate your intention with an X below
Rapid Response Fund ( <i>intended for small and medium scale emergencies</i> )	X
Appeal ( <i>intended for large scale emergencies</i> )	

*If you indicate an intention to launch an appeal, the secretariat will activate an Emergency Steering Committee meeting within two working days on receipt of this alert.*

#### 4. Forum Capacity and members intention to respond

ACT Member	Geographical focus	Sectors of expertise and experience
SAF/FJKM	Madagascar <sup>1</sup>	Emergency response, Early Action, recovery, preparedness Food Security & Nutrition WASH Health Environment & Climate Change

#### 5. Potential responses

To respond to the current emergency, based on its existing capacities, gaps encountered in the field assessment and operational presence, SAF/FJKM aims to carry out the following interventions for both response to cyclone Fytia and cyclone Gezani. A national member of ACT Alliance, SAF/FJKM, a national member of ACT Alliance has around 2,500 Disaster Risk Management volunteers in different regions.

- Distribution of wash kits for flood-affected households to combat post-flood waterborne diseases (bucket, cup, bowl, soap, water cleaning tools sûr'eau) and dignity kits for women and girls,
- Cash distribution: multipurpose,
- Assessments,
- Monitoring as well

To effectively carry out these actions, SAF/FJKM requires:

- Support in acquiring necessary equipment.
- Financial assistance for both emergency response and recovery efforts
- Networking opportunities for future emergency initiatives
- Refresh and capacity building to respond to emergencies

<sup>1</sup> SAF/FJKM has fifty-four branches in twenty-three regions, 30 clinics, and 24 development units spread over the areas under cyclone alert.