

ENGAGING GIRLS ON CLIMATE CHANGE IN MADAGASCAR



GOAL

Support girls and a generation of children and adolescents by providing environmental education in Madagascar through child-friendly schools.

WHO WILL BENEFIT



This project will help UNICEF enable children, particularly girls, to learn in safe and inclusive environment and empower them to take actions to change and to build climate-resilient communities. The targeted beneficiaries are more than 1,000 students (approximately 540 girls), 750 teachers, and residents of school communities in Beloha and Ambovombe districts in the region of Androy, the drought-prone region of the South.

Approximately 119,000 students (including 66,000 girls) and 1,500 teachers at 700 primary schools will indirectly impact from school health and environmental action plans.

The project will not only provide impact in the immediate and short-term, but also create robust enabling environments in which successful projects can be replicated at scale and be sustained in the long-term, thereby multiplying the impact on women, girls and boys over time.

**FUNDING: US\$500,000
to UNICEF USA**

SPECIFIC OBJECTIVES

1. Enable children to learn in safe and inclusive environments and empower them to take actions to build climate-resilient communities.
2. Support Madagascar in meeting water, sanitation and hygiene (WASH) sustainable development goals (SDGs), while also contributing to improving the quality of children's education, especially girls, through environmental conservation and education initiatives.

PROJECT HISTORY

Disaster Risk Reduction and Education for Sustainable Development are major objectives of Madagascar's National Education Plan.

In Madagascar, the new curricula for the first nine years of basic education have increased teaching and learning about the environment.

UNICEF works across Madagascar on curriculum reform with specific support for environmental education in all 9,200 primary and lower secondary schools within seven regions.

FAST FACTS

- Deforestation has impacted approximately 94% of Madagascar's previously forested lands. Almost 40% of forest cover disappeared between the 1950s and 2000, including the reduction of almost 80% of Madagascar's "core forest."
- 41% of the Madagascan population has access to basic water services; 17% to basic sanitation services and 23% to basic hygiene services.
- 81% of schools lack safe water and 31% lack basic latrines.



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STRATEGIES FOR SUCCESS

- Promote the role of children, schools, regions and districts in awareness-raising initiatives to preserve the environment, improve the quality of life and increase resilience in the face of climate change.
- Improve the quality of teaching and learning that supports environmental protection and sustainable development.
- Build the capacity of children, schools, regions and districts to contribute to initiatives on reforestation and water conservation, the creation of school gardens, and the regular cleaning and improvement of school and home environments.
- Deliver training and coaching activities through a pool of trainers from the Ministry of Education, the Ministry of Environment and Sustainable Development, and the CREE Research Center for Environmental Education (CREE).
- Develop school health and environmental plans at 700 primary schools, and provide skilled coaching to each school on how to implement their environmental action plan. A school competition for the best environmental action plan will take place, and prizes will be distributed.

This project will enable children, particularly girls, to learn in a safe and inclusive environment and empower them to take actions to change and to build climate-resilient communities.

EXPECTED OUTCOMES



At least 1,000 students (including about 540 girls) and 1,500 teachers will be trained on water conservation, environmental education and menstrual health and hygiene.



Schools become child-friendly institutions that offer impactful environmental learning experiences that address gender, disability, language and other factors as they relate to learning about and being impacted by the environment.



Five pilot schools will promote environmental education and reinforce hygiene and sanitation behaviors that promote children's access to education through gardens managed by child clubs under the supervision of schoolteachers. Training will be provided on the effects of climate change (e.g., droughts, floods, extreme heat, saltwater intrusion, etc.) and participants will receive information on environmental education, water conservation, solid waste sorting and management, WASH and infection prevention and control.



Sanitation, hygiene and water conservation practices will be promoted in the villages around the five pilot schools, and community members will be educated about the impacts of climate change through trained healthcare workers, teachers, parents and students.



At least 750 teachers at 700 primary schools will receive training on climate and environment, sanitation and hygiene practices, clean school environment and the development of disaster risk plans to enable learning to continue during natural disasters.

