Climate Change and Natural Disasters in Madagascar

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Madagascar- Context

• 80% of the population lives on less than US$1.90;

• 4th in terms of chronic malnutrition rates, more than 50% of children under 5 have delays in growth;

• The ‘Deep South’ is most affected by climate change and had a severe drought in 2015-17 due to El Nino. Structurally arid (500mm of rain annually), the region experienced significant loss of production and living standards.

• In January/February 2016, close to 1,140,000 people in the South were food insecure (80% of the region’s rural population): 47% suffered severe food insecurity and 34% suffered moderate food insecurity.
Global Objective
Support households worst hit by the drought with supplemental income, to enable their livelihood recovery

Specific Objectives
- Income stability for households affected by the drought
- Support livelihood recovery of households by encouraging economic activity (agriculture, livestock etc.)
- Improve human capital through better access to nutrition services and schooling support for children 0-12 years of age
- Improve coordination in the South, led by Ministry of Population, Social Protection and Promotion of Women

Expected Results
1: Reduction in levels of vulnerability and poverty;
2: Improved food consumption and diversification;
3: Improved nutrition, health and hygiene practices;
4: Strengthened social and economic resilience;
5: Empowerment of Women and communities;
Design of the crisis response in the South

- **Program duration**: 3 years

- **Financing**: 2 sources
  - World Bank: USD 35 million
  - UNICEF: USD 825,000

- **Four main components:**
  - Cash transfers (monthly, bimonthly)
  - Nutrition services
  - Livelihood grants
  - Coordination and Evaluation

- **Intervention Zones:**
  - 5 Districts in 2 regions of the South (Anosy et Androy) that were most affected by acute malnutrition: 338 community nutrition sites;

- **Number of households (hh):**
  - 1st year: 56,000 hh, based on the beneficiary lists of the national nutrition program: families with children 0-5;
  - 2nd year: scale up to 69,000 households; families with children 0-12.
The Actors

• **Coordination:**
  – The Ministry for Population, Social Protection and Promotion of Women

• **Implementation Agencies:**
  - The Madagascar Social Development Fund (FID) = Fonds d’Intervention pour le Développement
  - National Nutrition Program (ONN)

• **Implementation:**
  - FID : (i) cash transfers, and (ii) livelihood grants, in partnership with local NGOs;
  - ONN: (iii) nutrition in partnership with local NGOs

• **Other Partners:**
  - Ministry of Education, Ministry of Health, Ministry of Agriculture, EU Rural Development Program
Key Elements of Implementation

1. Integration of Social Protection with Nutrition, Health and Family Planning Services
   - Geographic targeting based on acute malnutrition rates
   - Targeting of beneficiaries based on list of households registered at the community nutrition sites with children aged 0-5 years

2. Integration of Social Protection with Rural Development
   - Introduction of savings (through behavioral ‘nudges’) and ‘farmers’ business plan’
   - Agreements with Ministries for technical assistance in Agriculture and Finance (Creating Value Chains)
   - Partnering with local associations for close support and proximity
Key Elements of Implementation

3. Reinforcing citizen engagement and role of women
   ✓ Compulsory registration of households to obtain identification: photo of the cash recipient (mother) and one child to receive beneficiary card,
   ✓ Building awareness and linkages to obtain the National Identity Card
   ✓ Empowerment of women and improving their status in the household and society

4. Regional and local coordination, and at the nutrition sites
   Collaboration agreements with XX organizations
Livelihood grants for building resilience to shocks

- **Objective:** rebuild means of subsistence and livelihoods to ensure income generation for households and build resilience to shocks

- **Implementation:**
  1. Beneficiaries (female head of household) organized in groups of 20-25, they elect a Mother Leader
  2. Each households develops a ‘Business Plan’ for a productive activity,
  3. Training for improved technique;
  4. Regular follow-up with the households on their activity,
  5. Connecting households with existing socio-economic services locally,
  6. Sectoral partnerships with different ministries, NGOs and rural development programs to build on their expertise.
Income generating activities by household till 31/12/17

- Agriculture
- Elevage
- Pêche
- Petit commerce
Adaptations of FIAVOTA

‘Normal’ Safety Net Programs

- Geographic targeting based on poverty, education, health indicators,
- Targeting of households: community pre-selection and Proxy Means Test; (children ages 0-12),
- Co-responsibility from the start,

FIAVOTA

- Geographic targeting based on malnutrition,
- Targeting of households: existing list of beneficiaries of the nutrition program (children aged 0-5),
- Gradual introduction of co-responsibilities.
Adaptations in Fiavota (Cont.)

‘Normal’ Safety Net Programs

- Payment based on compliance with co-responsibility,
- Bi-monthly payment
- Payment in the village or at the commune,
- Complementary measures through the ‘well-being’ spaces.

FIAVOTA

- Payment without co-responsibility,
- Monthly payments (in the beginning).
- Payment at the nutrition sites,
- Complementary measures through the ‘well-being’ meetings and:
  - Collaboration with existing rural programs
  - Creative communication campaign: community theatre, radio shows, etc.
Key Accomplishments

- 1st transfer was paid in December 2016 (three months after Bank’s Board approval)
- Today 56000 households beneficiaries;
- Change in behavior at the household level: greater autonomy and entrepreneurial spirit;
- Greater understanding of the consequences of childhood nutrition and education;
- Enhancement of the role of the woman in household decision making: empowerment and improved household status;
- Increased social cohesion at the community level through organization and election of mother leaders;
- Increase in the use of social services (nutrition, vaccination, family planning, education, etc.);
- Massive delivery of cash transfers, for the first time in the region, including through mobile banking,
- Good governance through effective Grievance Redress Mechanisms;
- Grievance system management with integrated communication between main implementing partners;
- Unique and digitized online database management to provide real-time information on completed activities such as targeting, payment, follow-up, complaints etc.
Challenges

In the beginning
- Modifying the ‘normal’ social safety net program to an emergency response program, including IT systems, communication, coordination, etc.
- Building synergy between nutrition interventions and cash transfers for a rapid and efficient response;

Now
- Lack of clarity in terms of responsibilities between different authorities responsible for emergency response and development programs;
- Lack of coordination between development partners;
- Overlap of emergency response and social safety net programs in the same intervention zones.
Recommendations for future research and programs

• Develop integrated development policy for the South to gradually reduce emergency/humanitarian assistance and introduce comprehensive social protection and economic inclusion.

• Create a unique beneficiary registry to support coordination and monitoring of programs.

• Harmonization of geographic targeting and household targeting criteria.

• Protocol for transition from emergency assistance to long-term social protection and other programs.

• Convergence of different programs and partners (UN, World Bank, International NGOs) and coordination and real-time information sharing.

• Strong and coherent institutional and operational communication.
thank you