



DISASTER
RELIEF

CASE REPORT

Malagasy Republic—Cyclones
January and February 1976

Agency for International Development
Washington, DC 20523

Foreign Disaster Case Reports are publications of the Office of Foreign Disaster Assistance, Agency for International Development. This office has responsibility for coordinating U.S. Government foreign disaster relief responses and for the further coordination of such activities with those of the U.S. private and international disaster relief communities.

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MALAGASY REPUBLIC

Cyclones—January and February 1976

Three violent cyclones, an annual menace to Madagascar, caused extensive damage to the northern part of the country. Cyclone "Clotilde" with winds up to 125 miles per hour struck and ravaged the northeast coast on January 10. On January 21, cyclone "Danae" hit Majunga Province on the northeast coast causing considerable damage to the towns of Andapa, Vohe-mar, Antalaha, Sambava, and many villages. Two months later, cyclone "Gladys" moved inland from the Indian Ocean striking Antalaha Prefecture completely wiping out the economy. The Government of the Democratic Republic of Madagascar (GDRM) estimated casualties and losses as follows:

Deaths	16
People Injured	26
People Affected	250,000-500,000
Number Homeless	8,850
Dollar Damage:	
Private Housing	\$17,000,000
Public Buildings	5,600,000
Roads and Bridges	7,200,000
Ports	340,000
Crops and Domestic Animals	14,000,000
TOTAL	\$44,140,000

VALUE OF U.S. GOVERNMENT ASSISTANCE.....	\$ 4,500
VALUE OF ASSISTANCE BY U.S. VOLUNTARY AGENCIES	16,500
VALUE OF ASSISTANCE BY THE INTERNATIONAL COMMUNITY	225,995

ACTION TAKEN BY THE GOVERNMENT OF MADAGASCAR

Communication facilities that sustained considerable damage had to be repaired so that contact could be reestablished with isolated areas.

The small amounts of emergency stocks available in the cyclone struck areas were rapidly depleted and had to be replenished. The National Relief Council expended \$600,000 for this purpose.

The Military Engineer Corps was activated to provide shelter to the homeless at Sambava and Andapa.

The GDRM launched a national appeal among the Malagasy population and raised almost \$300,000 for the victims. Further, an appeal for international solidarity was made

to member states of the Organization of African Unity (OAU) and the Economic and Social Council of the United Nations was asked to assist with medium-term and long-term measures for the recovery and reconstruction of the areas affected by the cyclones.

ASSISTANCE PROVIDED BY THE U.S. GOVERNMENT

Based on reports from the United Nations Development Program Resident Representative and local news media of the damage inflicted on the northern region by the cyclones, Charge Gilbert H. Sheinbaum determined the disaster warranted U.S. Government assistance. He exercised his disaster relief authority on January 29, 1976 and pre-

sent a check of one million Malagasy francs (US \$4,500) to the GDRM to aid the cyclone victims.

ASSISTANCE PROVIDED BY U.S. VOLUNTARY AGENCIES

Catholic Relief Services determined that there was a need for assistance and donated the following:

Cash	\$10,000
350 bags of corn/soya/blend oatmeal valued at	3,000
10 cases of medicines valued at	3,500
TOTAL	\$16,500

ASSISTANCE PROVIDED BY THE INTERNATIONAL COMMUNITY

Governments

Austria—20 kgs of medicine	*
China (People's Republic of) cash donation	\$ 77,000
Egypt—cash donation	9,100

Great Britain—cash donation	5,800
Japan—cash donation	4,500
Mauritius—cash donation..	11,400

Other

Adventist Mission of France— cash donation	900
Assembly of God of Sweden— cash donation	1,600
Ismael Society of Prince Aga— cash donation	900
Red Cross (Romania)— relief supplies (unknown contents)	1,513
Red Cross (U.S.S.R.)— medicines and other supplies	95,782
United Nations Development Program—cash donation of \$13,200 and medicines ..	13,000**
TOTAL	\$225,995

*Value of assistance not reported.

**Incomplete value of assistance reported.



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