Introduction

• Madagascar is one of the poorest countries in the world and is still trying to develop a robust public healthcare system.
• Cyclones adversely impact the Malagasy population every year by causing floodings, ruined crops, destroying homes and schools, and by causing infectious disease outbreaks.
• In the future, climate change might cause cyclones to become more intense/frequent.
• Madagascar must become better equipped at tackling infectious diseases and health centers must develop resilience.

Methods

• Evaluate how health centers across Madagascar function and what strategies they currently use to withstand the effects of cyclones and tropical storm events.
• Interview doctors at health centers to learn about services, patients, common illnesses, funding, relief measures for cyclone victims, vector control measures, etc.
• Extract infectious disease data from the Malagasy Ministry of Health for later analysis (finding relationships between climatic factors and infectious disease incidence).
• Extract district-level data for analysis with cyclone trajectory.

Preliminary Results

• Met with officials at the Malagasy Ministry of Health to learn about government health projects to aid the population during and after cyclone season.
• Conducted a total of 35 interviews
• Interviewed health doctors at >30 health centers in Antananarivo – both private and public (CSBs - Centre de Sante de Base)
• Met with statistical services to extract infectious disease data on diseases like Malaria, Yellow Fever, Plague, Respiratory Infections, Diarrheal Disease, and Pneumonia.
• Travelled around Antananarivo to document landscape

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Further Research

A more robust analysis of the interview data will be conducted after transcribing the interview material into written English. I was able to obtain 3 years worth of infectious disease data which I will be using to evaluate connections between climate and disease across different regions in Madagascar. I will also be using cyclone trajectory data to plot where cyclones seem to have most adverse impacts and which specific health centers may need develop resilience in the future.