



Report on

Project Sekoly: provision of improved school infrastructure, including four new buildings and new facilities for Manambaro Lycée (high school), Anosy Region, Southeast Madagascar

Module 1: Provision of one two-cubicle composting latrine and one well



July 2015

ONG AZAFADY
VILLA RABEMANDA, AMBINANIKELY, B.P. 318, TOLAGNARO (614), MADAGASCAR
TEL: +261 20 92 212 65 • FAX: +261 20 92 212 65
EMAIL: LISA@AZAFADY.ORG
WWW.MADAGASCAR.CO.UK

AZAFADY LTD
SUITE 7, 1A BEETHOVEN STREET, LONDON, W10 4LG, ENGLAND
+ 44 (0) 20 8960 6629 • FAX: + 44 (0) 20 8962 0126
COMPANY NUMBER 3796669 • REGISTERED CHARITY NUMBER 1079121
EMAIL: MAL@AZAFADY.ORG

1. Introduction

'Ny fianarana no lova soa indrindra'

'Education is the best heritage'

- Local saying

Madagascar is one of the most impoverished and least developed countries in the world, ranking 155/187 on the UNDP 2014 Human Development Index. Within the remote Anosy region in the southeast of the country, the effects of chronic poverty are seen at their most extreme. More than 80% of the local population live under the global poverty line of \$1.25/day (UNDP 2013); almost half (45%) of 6-35 year olds have never been to school and only 12% of 15-17 year olds are enrolled at a *lycée* (public or private high school; INSTAT/ENSOMD 2012-13). While the government has adopted a strategy paper for poverty reduction, the isolation of the region and a lack of government capacity mean that service delivery is extremely limited. An insufficient supply of resources, trained teachers and facilities present a widespread and ongoing problem, exacerbated following the coup in 2009, when political instability led to an 82% reduction in national investment in education (World Bank 2011), significantly impacting Madagascar's ability to provide quality education.

Manambaro is the largest village in Manambaro Rural Commune and, as the commune centre, is an important regional hub. In addition to its primary school and middle school, it has one of the few high schools in the region, which opened in 2012 and serves a catchment area with 16 middle schools. The school was built by Direction Regional de l'Enseignement National (DREN, the regional education authority) in 2011, and currently only has the capacity for 200 students – 100 in each building. This means 400 – 500 students are turned away every year, and one entire year group is currently temporarily being taught in the town hall. Furthermore, prior to this project, students had to defecate openly in nearby bushes, or go home to use toilet facilities, as there were none on site. Combined with a lack of clean water for drinking or hand washing, this significantly impacted on students' attendance, health, and future education prospects.



One of the two Manambaro Lycée buildings with site of new latrine in the background

Thanks to donor support, Azafady has been able to pursue the construction of new sanitation facilities at Manambaro Lycée, specifically a two-cubicle composting latrine and well. This report focuses on the activities involved in the construction of this latrine and well, Module 1 of the project, undertaken by Azafady in Manambaro between April and June 2015.

2. Project activities

2.1 Preparation

Preparations for the building of the latrine and well began in 2014 with discussions with CISCO, the district education authority, and continued in 2015 with meetings in March between Azafady, the Mayor of Manambaro, the head teacher of Manambaro Lycée, and the president of Manambaro Lycée's FRAM (the

parents' association). A traditional groundbreaking ceremony also took place in April and was attended by the Chef of Manambaro *fokontany* (village cluster). All necessary materials were sourced and staff and volunteers recruited, including three new international volunteers who joined construction activities in April, and assisted on the project until the majority of the work was complete in May. Azafady's construction team went back at the beginning of June, and are going again in July, to finish the final construction activities.

2.2 Completed construction activities

The following sections detail the progress of the construction work since April:

2.2.1 Transport

- Materials necessary for construction, including cement, piping, wire, paint and tools, were sourced in Fort Dauphin and transported to the site at Manambaro
- The Azafady construction team and international volunteers travelled out to Manambaro in April, and again in May to finish the building work

2.2.2 The two-cubicle composting latrine

- An elevated latrine pit was built above ground from breezeblocks and covered with a concrete platform which formed the floor of the latrine
- Breezeblock walls for the cubicles were built and painted
- Concrete steps were built up to the latrine platform
- The roof was fitted and painted

2.2.3 The well

- The shaft was drilled manually and thick PVC pipes installed inside
- The well was capped with a concrete lid and Canzee pump
- A concrete surround with a drain to conduct waste water away from the well was built



Laying the breezeblocks for the latrine



Working on the latrine platform

2.3 Latrine management training and WASH education

Alongside construction activities, Azafady's Community Health team have supported the establishment of management committees for the well and latrine, to be responsible for maintenance and cleaning, and drawn up a Memorandum of Understanding and plan of action for this with them. Training sessions led by one of Azafady's Community Health Agents, as well as educational and triggering sessions with the students, are scheduled for later this year.

2.4 Future activities

All that remains to be done at Manambaro Lycée as part of this module of Project Sekoly is for the latrine doors to be fitted, and for Azafady's Community Health Agent to deliver sanitation education activities, visiting the school to run workshops to motivate students to use the latrines and well appropriately and ensure their sustained use. These visits will be conducted monthly during term time until January 2016, along with meetings and training sessions with the community management committees to support the future care and maintenance of the facilities, which will include building a fence around the new facilities. In addition, Azafady will return once the latrine is full, which is anticipated to be after several years, to assist the community with switching chambers.

3. Conclusion

Project Sekoly in Manamabaroo has been implemented as per its schedule, with no unforeseen delays. With construction of the new latrine and well now almost complete, Manambaroo Lycée is able to provide a safe and sanitary environment for students with, crucially, potable water and sanitation facilities on site. Students are now attending school in clean surroundings, free of open defecation, and have fresh water available for hand washing and drinking. This will increase the amount of time students are able to spend at school, reduce the number of school days lost to diarrhoeal disease, and overall help create a positive environment for learning. As a result, students are more likely to attend school and be able to get the most out of their high school education, enhancing educational opportunity and student wellbeing. Azafady is still seeking funding for the building of three more composting latrine blocks and four new classroom buildings with furniture, following which the capacity of the school will increase from 200 to 600.

Azafady's community health agent will continue to work with the school and community over the coming months to ensure the continued use and management of the latrines and well into the future. Positive impacts of the project's activities at Manambaroo are expected to continue for years to come, due to the increased capacity of the high school, as well as the improved quality of the learning environment available to students. This in turn will enhance their educational prospects, supporting the local human resource base and promoting long-term sustainable development in the region.

Appendix 1: Manambaro Lycée Case Studies

Name: Marcelot

Year: Première

Marcelot is 17 years old and in his penultimate year at Manambaro Lycée. He lives in Mangarivotra, a village over an hour's walk away from the school, a journey he makes every day. His favourite subjects are English and French, and outside of school time he likes to practice these languages. In the future, he would like to become a doctor at the hospital in Manambaro, something that will require him to go and study in the capital Antananarivo.

Marcelot thinks the new latrines are good for the school, so that students don't go to the toilet openly outside. He also says the new well will be beneficial in making drinking water available on site.



Students studying in one of the classrooms

Name: Bomineny

Year: Terminale

Bomineny is 23 years old but is still in his final year of school at Manambaro Lycée. He has four sisters and one brother and lives in Manambaro Centre, around a 15 minute walk from school. Bomineny's favourite subjects are English and maths, and he likes playing football and practicing his English outside of school. He also wants to become a doctor and work in the village his family is from.

Bomineny says that students currently go to the toilet in the bushes, which is dirty - and they can get stung by wasps. The new latrines will solve this problem. He also thinks the new well will be good for the students, as otherwise if they are thirsty they have to go home to get a drink, and to wash their hands they have to sneak water from a nearby well which belongs to someone else.

Name: Princilla

Year: Terminale

Princilla is 16 years old and lives in Manambaro Centre, just ten minutes from the school, where she is in her final year. She is the only one of her four siblings who goes to school. Her favourite subjects are Malagasy, science, French and English, and she wants to be a science teacher in the future. After school she likes to play basketball.

Princilla thinks the new latrines will be good for the school, as they mean the surrounding area will be cleaner. The well will allow students to clean themselves, wash their hands and drink fresh water.



Students in Manambaro

Name: Sambieviny

Year: Première

Sambieviny is 18 years old and stays with extended family in Manambaro Centre so that he can attend school. His parents and five brothers live 22km away, a four hour walk, in the village of Mandiso, where they are farmers. He is the only one in his family at school, and goes back to visit them every month. His favourite subjects are English and French, and he wants to be a soldier, as he has an uncle in the army who will be able to help him get a job.

Sambieviny is pleased about the new latrines and well Azafady are building as it will stop students going to the toilet outside, and stop them from drinking dirty water.