

## Implementing the Sexual and Reproductive Health Rights (SRHR) Curriculum in Madagascar's Largest Teacher Training University

In collaboration with the Ministry of Higher Education, SEED Madagascar (SEED) is integrating SRHR modules into the teacher training programs at *Ecole Normale Supérieure* (ENS) in Antananarivo, Madagascar's largest teacher training university. These modules are consistent with the new school curriculum taught in high schools across central and southeast Madagascar. A steering group, formed of six ENS professors, has taken the lead in developing the SRHR curriculum. This will provide ENS professors with the training required to teach SRHR education delivery to the next generation of Malagasy teachers, subsequently improving access to SRHR education for high school students across Madagascar.

In April 2021, SEED, the Ministry of Higher Education, and the ENS confirmed their partnership by validating a memorandum of understanding (MoU). The MoU signing and accompanying ceremony (*pictured below*) were broadcasted across three national news stations and released in national newspapers. This media attention demonstrated the national excitement surrounding the integration of SRHR into the university's curriculum.



To support the sustainable implementation of the SRHR curriculum, SEED is supporting the ENS steering group in developing the SRHR reference document, reinforcing local ownership of the curriculum. The reference document contains detailed information about the 13 topics professors will teach ENS student teachers. These topics include sexual abuse, gender equality, advocacy, consent, puberty, MHM, early pregnancy, obstetric fistula, HIV/AIDS, cervical cancer, non-sexually transmitted vaginal infections, communication, and early marriage. This document was developed using SEED's Safidy SRHR high school curriculum, combined with research conducted by the ENS. The reference document is nearly complete, with SEED currently assessing the final revisions made by ENS to ensure all messaging is rights-based.

Implementing the SRHR curriculum at the ENS teacher training program is a huge milestone for the long-term sustainability of Project Safidy. By educating future educators on SRHR, the curriculum will become integrated into the national education system from the start; this will enhance the capacity of ENS students to effectively deliver the SRHR curriculum to high school students across Madagascar, generation after generation. Ultimately, this will empower young people to make informed decisions and realise their SRHR.