



# Education For Madagascar

Quality - Ethics - Sharing

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Once upon a time, in the heart of Madagascar, there were villages where children dreamed of a brighter future, yet poverty too often closed the doors to their hopes.

It was there that Education For Madagascar was born, with a deep conviction: Education has the power to transform lives. Not only by learning to read, write, or count, but by giving children and young people the tools to shape their own path toward independence and dignity.

Today, in five villages – Ambohibe, Morondava, Ambohimanga, Taolagnaro, and Diego – we walk alongside these children, from their very first steps in school to their transition into adulthood. Together, we plant seeds of knowledge, confidence, and values.

But our mission goes far beyond the classroom. We also teach citizenship, respect for nature, and the importance of health, while supporting families – especially mothers, the true pillars of the community. Every child holds the keys to write their own story, transform their life, and help build a prosperous and sustainable future for Madagascar.



## News from Ambohimanga, our fourth site : New collaboration with Ambohimanga High School

Since opening our fourth site in January 2023, not far from the Rova of Ambohimanga, a UNESCO World Heritage Site, we have implemented a programme focused on reforestation, permaculture and the Women's School.

We immediately involved local students in monitoring the planted trees, thereby promoting their practical commitment to the environment.

The « Adopt a Tree » concept, which allows everyone to support our reforestation efforts, was also launched.

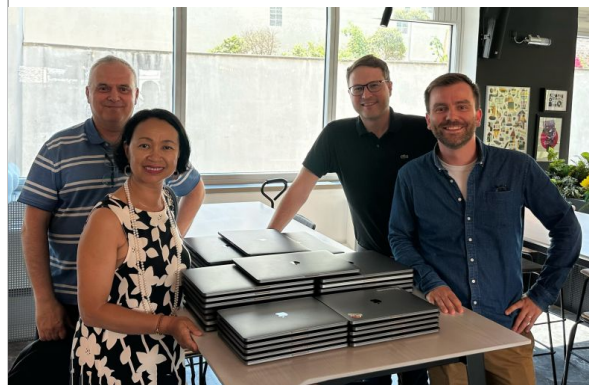
This year, we are taking a new step forward with the Lycée d'Ambohimanga. In addition to reforestation, we offer French and English lessons every Saturday, as well as training in environmental education. These initiatives aim to strengthen young people's commitment to the environment while providing them with essential language skills for their future.



TO ADOPT A TREE,

SCAN THE QR CODE

## Partnership with MWM Made With Madness Since 2020



We are grateful to MWM - Made With Madness for their invaluable support!

Thanks to their generous donation and the Apple equipment they provided, we are giving young people in Madagascar the tools they need to become the next generation of entrepreneurs and coders.

Read the article by Jean-Baptiste Hironde, founder and CEO of MWM. [ici](#).





## Madagascar & Japan... What could they possibly have in common? Discover the surprising connections during our Cultural and Language Exchanges with YIS – Yokohama International School!

Since October 2024, we have had the pleasure of continuing enriching cultural and linguistic exchanges with Yokohama International School (YIS).

YIS students, who come from various countries, meet every month via videoconference with young people from Education For Madagascar.

These meetings allow everyone to discover other cultures, share their traditions, and better understand the daily lives of young people abroad.

The topics covered so far reflect the interests and concerns of the students: gastronomy and eating habits, landscapes and cultural specificities, climate change and ecological actions, science, technology and innovation (STEM).

These exchanges are much more than just discussions: they are bridges between cultures, built by and for young people, which foster respect, friendship and hope for a more united future.



## New members of the Swiss office : Mrs. Fanja Andrianantoandro

Education For Madagascar Switzerland is delighted to welcome Ms Fanja Andrianantoandro, our new Secretary General, who has joined the team alongside Ms Sophie Blommé, our recently appointed President based in Geneva.

During her first visit to the field, Ms Fanja visited the Ambohibe campus and the Akka Montessori school in Akanin'ny Kilonga. This

inspiring immersion allowed her to share new ideas and instil a wonderful energy in our local teams.

We would like to express our sincere gratitude to Christine and Bruno Ranarivelo, as well as Laure Mondhard, who have been loyal pillars of our Swiss branch since its creation. Their unwavering support is an essential driving force behind our commitment.



## Career Day Awareness : « Organic farming explained to children » by Gaëtan Etancelin

On the occasion of our 5th Career Day Awareness event, we had the pleasure of welcoming Gaëtan Etancelin, an expert in organic farming, for a rich and inspiring discussion. In order to better meet everyone's expectations, participants were divided into two groups: 9–11 year olds and 12–20 year olds.

Gaëtan showed that agriculture is not limited to wielding a shovel or planting seeds. Thanks to technological advances, many innovative careers are now open to young people: agricultural engineer, quality manager, data analyst, digital agricultural advisor, application developer, and even drone technician.

He also pointed out that Madagascar plays a key role in global organic production, particularly for vanilla, cloves, shrimp and ylang-ylang. With 128,000 certified hectares, 80,000 certified farmers and more than 220,000 families living off vanilla, our country has exceptional potential to be exploited.

« Every ariary spent on organic products is a vote for the planet. Eating organic is good for you, and it's good for the planet ! »



## School For Women : two voices, two moments, one emotion : Méлина Janssen and Hanta Ramakavelo touched us deeply.



Once again, the School For Women welcomed two inspiring speakers. First, Hanta Ramakavelo celebrated « Nofy » the Malagasy word for « dream », highlighting the richness of the language and encouraging participants to believe in their dreams with boldness and determination.

A few weeks later, Méлина Janssen, speech therapist and founder of DEML, led a caring workshop, offering keys to better understanding emotions and strengthening parent-child communication.

These two memorable encounters, imbued with humanity, continue to resonate and inspire the women who attended.



## Diego joins the family — 5 sites and counting!

It all starts with an encounter.

During our recent mission to northern Madagascar, in the Diana region, we visited the Ankorikahely Public Primary School in the municipality of Ramena.

There, we discovered a reality that was both inspiring and concerning: 236 children, aged 3 to 15, are supervised by only 4 teachers. This imbalance reflects the persistent challenges of accessing quality education.

Faced with this situation, we decided to take action. Ankorikahely, Ramena has thus become our new intervention site in the Diana region, in line with our commitment to more equitable and sustainable education in Madagascar.

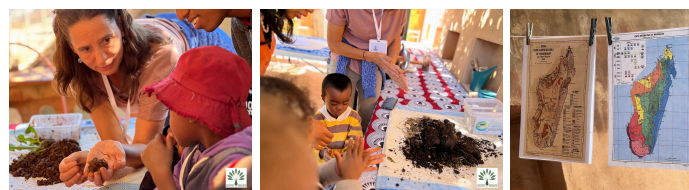
Our action aims to improve children's school life by building a covered playground, recruiting an additional teacher in September 2025, and raising students' awareness of health and the environment, as well as the local natural heritage.

Our intervention sites now cover Ambohibe, Morondava, Ambohimanga, Fort-Dauphin, and now Diego.

This project in Diego is being carried out in partnership with Koezy Company and Igers Madagascar, whom we warmly thank for their commitment to our cause.



## Soil Fresk with Marie Hastray



Understanding soil to better preserve it : a workshop that raises awareness.

Soil is the foundation of all life. And yet... it remains largely misunderstood. To remedy this, we recently participated in a Soil Fresk workshop, led by Marie Hastrais, a tropical agronomist specialising in organic farming and a soil expert with over 25 years of experience in Africa.

There were two highlights of the meeting:

The children of AKKA Montessori discovered the soil through observation, with their hands in the earth and their eyes wide open: a moment of sensory and scientific discovery.

Twelve educators immersed themselves in the Soil Fresk for three hours: a collaborative workshop using 50 cards to understand how soil is formed, why it is vital... and how we can act to preserve it.

Soil is alive... and it deserves to be understood.

This fresk, developed by ADEME with the support of AFES (French Association for Soil Studies), is a fun, rigorous and powerful tool for raising awareness among all generations.

It is urgent that we understand it in order to better preserve it.

## Ambohibe Gets a Health Boost: TOMADY and Nicosia University Students Join Forces for a Week of Care



*The children definitely needed it... but the adults? They were in full-on emergency mode!*

Teeth, skin, high blood pressure, addictions! From 16 to 20 June, our library was transformed into a mobile clinic to host a medical visit organised by the NGO's educators, in partnership with a team of volunteers from the University of Nicosia School of Medicine in Cyprus.

The visit was carefully coordinated by Isabelle Auguin, a state-registered nurse and patron of our Tomady dispensary, who has extensive experience in France and England. She was supported by five young graduates, two experienced professionals and two volunteer doctors, all of whom were passionately committed to the cause.

The beneficiaries underwent a comprehensive five-step process: reception and information gathering, general assessment, targeted examinations (oral, ENT, hearing, vision, blood sugar), psychological evaluation and sexual health awareness.

Roundtable discussions also provided an opportunity to address essential topics such as contraception, mental health, healthy living and addiction, in an atmosphere of listening and sharing.

At the same time, a giant Zumba event brought the community together to support the Tomady clinic and raise funds for the purchase of an ultrasound machine, a crucial tool for strengthening local healthcare. This festive event was made possible thanks to the loyal support of CanalPlus Madagascar.

This initiative is part of a long-term commitment, with follow-up visits planned for the near future.



### Madagascar Independence Day 2025

*Through the KANTO project, young people and children in Ambohibe celebrated Madagascar's 65th anniversary of independence together, expressing their creativity through music, theatre, board games and various artistic forms.*






## From desert land to a garden of the future : the living history of the PermaWash project in Mandromondromotra, Anosy!

### Inauguration of the PermaWash project, 28 June 2025

It was much more than an inauguration : it was the culmination of a bold venture. Transforming a dry, dusty 7,000 m<sup>2</sup> plot of land, abandoned for years in Mandromondromotra, into a fertile community garden where papaya trees, vegetables and, above all, hope now grow.

It all began in October 2024 with a simple idea: to combine permaculture and WASH (water, sanitation and hygiene) to improve the daily lives of local residents in a sustainable way. Supported by a grant from the US Embassy,  the project quickly took root.

In the first few weeks, eight motivated young people from the Ampasamasay technical high school in Fort-Dauphin answered the call. They left their home villages to spend several weeks immersed in learning, building, planting... Mornings started early, sometimes by headlamp, and the days were long under the southern sun, but their energy never wavered.

On site, Harilala Randrianirina, our permaculture specialist, pitched his tent at the start of the mission. For a year, he shared the community's daily life: its meals, its celebrations, but also its hardships. During a storm, he even slept on pallets to avoid his tent flooding!

The adventure was not always smooth sailing. Cyclone Jude in February destroyed several temporary structures and delayed the work by two weeks. Bush fires threatened the first plantings. And access to the site, which was sometimes cut off for days at a time, put our logistics teams to the test. Yet, despite everything, the mobilisation never wavered. On the contrary, each difficulty brought the inhabitants closer to the project.

Practical workshops were held with students from the Mandromondromotra secondary school, who learned how to build dry toilets, understand the role of earthworms and create their own compost. Some, like 12-year-old Christina, now explain to their parents how to save water in the garden. Others, like Olivier, dream of becoming « permaculture technicians » !

We have also organised reforestation sessions in partnership with local associations. The little ones planted their first trees, sometimes taller than themselves, with undisguised pride. And since then, they have been watching them grow as if they were pets.

On 28 June 2025, we celebrated this inauguration with emotion and gratitude. But this is not the end. It is the beginning of a new phase: that of sustainability. Maintaining the toilets, enriching the soil, managing the garden as a community... everything still needs to be built. But we are moving forward with confidence, because we know that the seeds have been planted not only in the earth, but also in people's hearts.

We will continue to involve students, train adults, and forge partnerships. Because this dynamic, born on desert land, is destined to grow, with all those who, like us, believe that a garden can change a life.

Because we care about children and their living planet !



## WASH mission at Les Bambins d'Ambalavao School, in partnership with Solidari'Terre – Centrale Lyon

After several years of experience using and installing Green Box dry toilets in Antananarivo since 2020, we launched our first consulting mission at Les Bambins d'Ambalavao school, in partnership with Solidari'Terre, Centrale Lyon.

The aim is to share our expertise and support the implementation of an ecological and hygienic system.

With Ny Antsa Rasolomanana, our environmental manager, and Ny Antsa Raoël, his assistant, we raised awareness among students, teachers and elected officials about the transformation of waste into safe fertiliser after 12 months of composting.

Sharing experience to build cleaner, healthier and more sustainable schools.



## OPS, City of Lyon and Education For Madagascar : an educational bridge



Our partnership with OPS and the City of Lyon has enabled exchanges between children from Ambohibe and those from the Dufy - Résidence Pradel nursery school and the Corneille school. Workshops, exhibitions, tastings and discoveries about nature strengthen this link between Madagascar and Lyon, promoting creativity, cultural openness and environmental commitment.

## First meeting of the Malagasy Montessori Association, AMMA Education For Madagascar as a member

The Association Montessori Malagasy organised its very first meeting on the Education For Madagascar campus, marking an important milestone in the development of Montessori education in Madagascar.

As a founding member, our NGO supports this initiative while fully respecting the association's independence, convinced that this collaboration will strengthen the quality and consistency of Montessori practices in the country.





## UNESCO World Heritage Volunteers 2025 : Young people committed to world heritage, together for Ambohimanga

From 25 July to 4 August 2025, the Royal Hill of Ambohimanga was buzzing with enthusiasm and a spirit of sharing. Under the leadership of Carlo Padiglione, project manager, and the coordination of Tsiory Rakotoarijaona, 12 young volunteers from Madagascar, Italy, and elsewhere came together for a common mission:

**to preserve a jewel listed as a UNESCO World Heritage Site.**

The ten days were punctuated by workshops on Malagasy history and culture, training in sustainable tourism, and meetings with local authorities, artisans, schoolchildren and village elders.

A cultural festival, featuring Hira Gasy, traditional dances and craft demonstrations, sealed these exchanges in joy and sharing.

This edition was made possible thanks to the support of UNESCO, COMNAT UNESCO, the Ambohimanga Rova Cultural Site Office, the VISEO group, Nature & Culture Madagascar, Haka Fy Restaurant, CANAL+ Madagascar, IR-HICI, ICOMOS, the Association of History Students of the University of Antananarivo, and the Universities of Pavia and La Sapienza.

By combining knowledge, cultures and energy, WHV 2025 has proven that young people are ready to work for the future while protecting the heritage of yesterday.

WORKING ON THE FUTURE  
**WORLD HERITAGE  
VOLUNTEERS** ➤



## Reminder – General Meeting

### Sunday, 31 August 2025

Dear members,  
Ladies and gentlemen,

Don't forget ! Our Ordinary General Meeting will take place this Sunday, 31 August 2025:  
2 p.m. (UK) – 3 p.m. (France/Switzerland) – 4 p.m. (Madagascar)  
At our site in Ambohibe Ilafy or via videoconference (Zoom)

Zoom link : <https://us06web.zoom.us/j/6728553307?pwd=TEExqWjN3WFVGQUl0RThiVnMxdkdoUT09>

Meeting ID : 672 855 3307

Passcode : 2uDrV1

Agenda :

- 2024 Activity and Financial Reports
- Approval of Accounts
- 2025 Activities & 2026 Forecasts
- Renewal of the Board
- Questions and Discussion

Please confirm your attendance by email to [jackie@educationformadagascar.org](mailto:jackie@educationformadagascar.org)  
(copy to [michou@educationformadagascar.org](mailto:michou@educationformadagascar.org) and/or [tsiory@educationformadagascar.org](mailto:tsiory@educationformadagascar.org)).  
If you are unable to attend, please arrange for an authorised member to represent you.

We look forward to seeing you there.

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