



The Feedback Trust  
Scottish Charity No. SC023568

**Construction of a new school building for the  
Teloambinifolo Primary School in Madagascar  
(FF 00388)**

# **Final report**

**March 2017**

**Feedback Madagascar/Ny Tanintsika (FBM/NT) –  
The Eagle Foundation**

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## Introduction

The Eagle Foundation agreed to fund a total of £14,380 for the project to construct a new school building for Teloambinifolo Primary School in Ambalavao urban municipality ('commune'), Ambalavao district, Haute Matsiatra region, SE Madagascar, Africa. This involved the construction of three furnished classrooms, a sanitation block comprising latrines/urinal, and a rainwater harvesting system linked to a hand-washing unit. This village is located 5km by road from Ambalavao town and 61km from Fianarantsoa town. Classrooms were previously vastly insufficient for the number of pupils at the school, which led the community to request help for the building of additional classrooms (letter dated 13/7/2014).

The funding agreement with the Eagle Foundation, dated 29<sup>th</sup> June 2016, was signed by the FBM UK administrator and the funds were received in the UK bank account on the 21<sup>st</sup> July 2016. This amounted to 55,372,518 MGA after transfer to Madagascar. The expected period of the project was from July to December 2016.



*Figure 1: Map locating Teloambinifolo Primary School in relation to the capital city Antananarivo & FBM/NT's regional office in Fianarantsoa.*





Figure 2: Map showing where the road is from Fianarantsoa via Ambalavao to Teloambinifolo Primary School.



Figure 3: Map showing Teloambinifolo Primary School and village (imagery date 20/6/2016).



## Calendar of achievements

Activity	2016						2017	
	July	Aug	Sept	Oct	Nov	Dec	Jan	Feb
Information letter sent to the local authorities and partners concerned with the project.	X							
Initial meetings in Teloambinifolo to sign the agreement setting out each stakeholders' roles and responsibilities in the project, to identify the storeroom & to develop an action plan regarding local materials.		X	X	X				
Negotiation & contracting of team to break building stones & gravel, to make & fire the bricks & to transport materials from Fianarantsoa to site.				X				
Meeting with the association of pupils' parents to elect members of the local committee to oversee & monitor work ('COST'), and their training.				X				
Ordering of equipment required, including doors & windows, furniture, etc.	X	X	X					
Recruiting of storekeeper & community mobilisation agent to work in Teloambinifolo.				X				
Procurement and transport of materials & equipment to site.				X	X	X		
Contracting of builders for the project.				X				
Community preparation of the land for the building (removal of vegetation, levelling).				X				
Installation of the builder's team at site.					X			
Foundations ceremony on the 4 <sup>th</sup> November 2016 and start of laying foundations.					X			
Building work (school, impluvium and sanitation block).					X	X		
Regular monitoring of work and achievement of community contributions.				X	X	X	X	
Delivery of school furniture (48 desks for students, 3 tables & 3 chairs for teachers).						X		
Provisional technical acceptance of works on the 21/12/2016.						X		
Installation of guttering, and some finishing touches.							X	
Technical acceptance of works.							X	
Election of members of the school maintenance & repairs committee ('CER').							X	
Training of members of the school maintenance & repairs committee ('CER') & provision of tool kit.								X



Figure 4: Transporting materials to Teloambinifolo.

## Details on the project

Building work at Teloambinifolo Primary School was very rapid, beginning on the 4<sup>th</sup> November 2016 with the bulk of work completed by the 21<sup>st</sup> December 2016. This was largely due to Teloambinifolo's relative accessibility by road which made the transport of materials from Fianarantsoa town much simpler than in other projects managed by Feedback Madagascar. Community organisation was also very impressive, and there was sufficient support given by local leaders in the area. Assistance and regular monitoring of building work was carried out to ensure the timely arrival of necessary materials to keep the work on track, to motivate beneficiaries to continue their contributions to the project, and to resolve any issues that arose. Close collaboration with the various stakeholders (suppliers of materials, storekeeper, builders, local authorities and transporters) helped ensure that work went smoothly.

The initial foundations ceremony was attended by a large delegation of authorities (local/district/regional) and included a traditional ceremony to thank the ancestors and ask for their blessing for the project. The construction team numbered 8, comprising 5 experienced builders and 3 specialised workers.



*Figure 5: The foundations ceremony at Teloambinifolo Primary School with the head of education in Ambalavao district speaking (above right) & the traditional blessing (below left) & start of laying foundations (below right).*





The 'COST' committee was created to oversee and monitor work at the school, particularly in relation to the achievement of community contributions. It was active in overseeing the work and monitoring community contributions, the stock situation (together with the storekeeper) and managing the local labourers from day-to-day. Planning took into account the timing of the builders' requirements for different materials, to reduce the risk of delays to work.

The following were community contributions to the project:

- Housing the builders;
- Unskilled labour. On average 10 people per day worked - fetching water required during building, helping the builders, carrying sand and materials, and other needs;
- A third of the required building stones and gravel. The Minister of Parliament for Ambalavao area and the Mayor of Ambalavao provided some help to the community for this.
- Round wood (for scaffolding). The community managed to negotiate help for this from the Mayor of Ambalavao.



*Figure 6: Construction of the new school building underway.*

The official verification of work was carried out on the 21<sup>st</sup> December 2016 in the presence of the COST committee, builders, the member of parliament for Ambalavao, a representative from Ambalavao district, head of the district education authorities, the head of education in the municipality, local and municipality leaders including the mayor of Ambalavao, the teachers and head-teacher, the parents' association, the neighbourhood chief of Teloambinofolo, and the local community of Teloambinofolo.

After inspection of the building and accompanying infrastructure, everybody was entirely satisfied with the work and no recommendations were made. A ceremony for the handing over of the keys was held, involving thank-you speeches.

Some materials were left for the school to use, including spades and shovels, metal barrels, jerry-cans, wheelbarrow, nails and re-bars.

The Maintenance and Repairs Committee « CER » plays an important role for the sustainability of the school building, furniture and impluvium. This committee is led by 2 members of the parents association who are knowledgeable in building work, and regroups a teacher representative as well as one pupil per class. It works closely with the head-teacher and the president of the parents association. The community are hence responsible for maintenance and repairs after the handing-over of the keys to the new buildings. Pupils are trained to report any defect to the head-teacher, who then reports this to a member of the « CER », who will plan its reparation. A tool kit is provided to the « CER » in order to make repairs.

Included in the contract signed between the school and Feedback Madagascar-Ny Tanintsika, the head-teacher is required to send annual reports of progress within the school which also includes any repairs carried out.



*Figure 7: Pupils fill a new classroom at Teloambinifolo Primary School.*

Features of the new school building are as follows:

- One building of 3 classrooms, measuring 21.88m x 7.94m x 4.4m in total.
- Stone foundations and brick walls with a reinforced concrete structure.
- Cement rendering on inside and outside walls.
- Cyclone-proof tin roofing.
- Double metal doors with hooks to hold them open on the outside.
- Each classroom with 3 windows. Windows with glass panes, opening to the inside with protection grill



on the outside.

- Front and back guttering linking to a 7m<sup>3</sup> water tank serving as a hand-washing station to the side of the building, connected to 3 taps. This is located between the latrines and the school to promote hand-washing at key moments. The tank is equipped with a manhole cover on the top and steps (between the tank and the school building) to be able to reach and refill during the dry season.
- Two-tone colouring (interior and exterior); oil paint at the base to protect from dirt and water-based paint higher-up.
- Wooden pine ceiling (of classrooms and veranda) painted with oil paint.
- Concrete blackboard with concrete chalkboard and raised stage for the teacher and their desk.
- Concrete flooring.
- In-built shelving in each classroom, lockable with a wooden door to store books / materials or supplies.
- A sanitation block composed of three-compartment washable and 'fly-proof' latrines (long-drop toilets 6 metres deep) with separate girls/boys urinal behind. The urinals are roofed to prevent rainwater from entering the toilets (risk of damage in the cyclone season) as urine is channelled directly into the latrine pit.
- 48 school desks with integrated benches (16 in each classroom), 3 tables and 3 chairs for teachers.
- Provision of a tools kit for the school maintenance and repairs committee, who are a new structure put-in-place to improve maintenance of the infrastructure.
- A sign for the school about 50m from the building.



*Figure 8: Teaching in one of the new classrooms.*

## Project beneficiaries

The 321 school pupils and 6 teachers are the main direct beneficiaries of this new school building. For this school year (2016-17) pupil numbers are as follows:

Year of Primary School	F	M	Total
1: CP1 (11ème)	43	71	114
2: CP2 (10ème)	31	31	62
3: CE (9ème)	35	25	60
4: CM1 (8ème)	31	23	54
5: CM2 (7ème)	15	16	31
<b>TOTAL:</b>	<b>155</b>	<b>166</b>	<b>321</b>

There is currently no nursery school level at the school but teachers will be trained and ready in time for the next school year. Of the 6 teachers, 3 are civil servants, 2 receive some government financial support whilst 1 teacher is purely supported by the parents' association.

Families of these pupils and all of the neighbourhood are indirect beneficiaries.



Figure 9: Pupils line up early morning for school at Teloambinifolo (before guttering was installed).

## Expenditure summary

Items	Budget (£)	Funds received (MGA)	Expenditure (£)	Difference with amount received (£)	Explanation for difference
Materials for the new school buildings (3 classrooms), Latrines/urinal & Hand-washing unit	8,836	34,022,107.34	37,231,940.00	- 3,209,832.66	Difference is due to the significant change in exchange rates since the proposal was sent (3,891 MGA to the £ instead of 4,400 MGA budgeted).
School furniture (not including transport costs)	622	2,394,382.31	2,290,000.00	104,382.31	
Transport costs (building materials and furniture)	1,000	3,850,614.83	4,227,600.00	- 376,985.17	
Labour costs	2,495	9,609,034.28	9,930,000.00	- 320,965.72	
Monitoring & evaluation costs	417	1,604,422.85	2,634,592.00	- 1,030,169.15	
Administration/ overheads (7%)	1,011	3,891,956.43	4,093,245.52	- 201,289.09	
<b>Total</b>	<b>14,380</b>	<b>55,372,518</b>	<b>60,407,378</b>	<b>- 5,034,859</b>	



## Current situation

	Situation pre-project	Expected situation post-project	Real situation post-project
Number of existing parent-built classrooms	One building with three classrooms.	Six classrooms (they will recruit an additional teacher).	Seven classrooms; One room of an existing building for teachers' housing was repaired and will be used as a classroom for the nursery school class due to open in October 2017.
Number of classrooms currently borrowed	They are borrowing one inhabitant's house for classrooms.	No classrooms will be borrowed.	No classrooms will be borrowed.
School office	None.	The parent's association plan to build a school office.	One room of an existing building for teachers' housing was repaired and is now used as a school office.
WASH (Water – Sanitation – Hygiene)	One latrine in a poor state. No clean drinking water.	A sanitation block of 3-compartment latrines and boys/girls urinals will be built, along with a hand-washing unit. Co-funding will be used to supply the school with water filters for drinking water, and the potential of drilling a borehole/installing a hand-pump will be investigated.	A sanitation block of 3-compartment latrines and boys/girls urinals was built, along with a hand-washing unit. Co-funding will be used to supply the school with water filters for drinking water, and the potential of drilling a borehole/installing a hand-pump will be investigated.



Figure 10: Jubilant pupils at Teloambinifolo Primary School.

## Conclusion

This project was very rapid, with building work lasting a record of just 47 days, due to the impressive solidarity between villagers in this community, the good weather conditions and the absence of problems. In addition to the 10 daily labourers, almost all villagers also turned up on a daily basis to help out with work. The builders made every effort to ensure that the school would be ready to use for the New Year. The community of Teloambinifolo and all the local and district authorities are overjoyed at this project.

**Thanks so much to the Eagle Foundation for funding this project!**



*Figure 11: A huge thank-you from all the pupils at Teloambinifolo.*





Figure 12: Pupils & the flower garden planted outside the school.



Figure 13: The impluvium tank & hand-washing point (left), & sign for Teloambinifolo (right).





*Figure 14: Posterior view of the Teloambinifolo Primary School with protection for the down-pipes.*



## Thank-you letter from the community & school

Translation: "The inhabitants of Teloambinifolo neighbourhood, the parents of pupils at Teloambinifolo Primary School & all the teachers convey our huge thanks & appreciation to you all for the achievement of the school – comprising 3 classrooms & all the equipment inside it, & the sanitation block with 3 compartments as well as the rainwater catchment tank. All these infrastructure have been completely finished & are being used. That is why we want to express our thanks for having responded to our request. May God bless you for your work".

(Signed by the neighbourhood chief, Headmistress, President of parents' association & other members).

A Teloambinifolo anio 03 Mars 2017.

HO amin' RAMATOA MPANDRINDRA NY ONG  
NY TANINTSIKA AO FIANARANTSOA SY  
NY MPIARA-MIASA AMINY

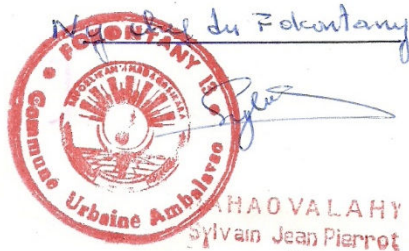
Antony: FISAORANA  
NY FAHAVITAN' NY SEKOLY  
EPP Teloambinifolo

Ny mponina ato amin' ny fokontany Teloambinifolo,  
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Raiso any ny hafa sy ny voninahitra ambony  
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Ny Fiholah' ny FRAM Lehibe

RAZAFINDRAKOTO Alber

Ralamirina piana Jean Thomas

ANDRIAMANJAKA Jacques