

Construction of a new school building for the Ambatofotsy Lycée (High School) in Madagascar

(FF 430 - 027)

Final report

October 2018

Feedback Madagascar/Ny Tanintsika (FBM/NT) –

The Eagle Foundation

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Introduction

The Eagle Foundation agreed to fund a total of £23,943 for the project to build a new school building for Ambatofotsy High School (Lycée) in the central village of Ambatofotsy rural municipality ('commune'), Ikongo district, Vatovavy Fitovinany region, SE Madagascar, Africa. This involved the construction of three furnished classrooms, a sanitation block comprising latrines/urinal, a rainwater harvesting system linked to a handwashing unit, and was due to include a borehole installed with hand-pump for drinking water purposes.

This large village is located to the east of the rainforest protected area 'COFAV', 163 km from Fianarantsoa of which 73 km is on a very secondary road from Ifanadiana towards the district centre of Ikongo (which is 17km to the south of Ambatofotsy). Classrooms were previously very insufficient in number, leading the community to request help for the building of additional classrooms (letters dated 16/02/2016 and 5/10/2016).

The funding agreement with the Eagle Foundation, dated 27th November 2017, was signed by the FBM UK administrator and the funds were received in the UK bank account on the 5th December 2017. This amounted to 104,268,941 MGA after transfer to Madagascar. The expected period of the project was from December 2017 to April 2018.



Project location

Figure 1: Map locating Ambatofotsy Lycée in relation to the capital city Antananarivo, FBM/NT's regional office in Fianarantsoa & the coastal regional town of Manakara.



Figure 2: Map showing where the road is from Fianarantsoa via Ifanadiana to Ambatofotsy Lycée, & the district centre in Ikongo.



Figure 3: Map showing Ambatofotsy Lycée and village (Google Earth imagery date 30/04/2016).

Latitude: 21°45'44.80"S Longitude: 47°29'35.11"E Altitude 758 m

Calendar of achievements

Activity		2017 2018									
		Jan	Feb	Mar	Apr	May	June	July	Aug	Sept	Oct
Information letter sent to the local	Х							-			
authorities and partners concerned with											
the project.											
Meetings and negotiations regarding the	Х	Х									
choice of site for the Ambatofotsy Lycée.											
Official project launch with the			Х								
community in Ambatofotsy 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.											
Negotiation & contracting of teams to											
break building stones & gravel, to make			Х								
the cement breezeblocks & the											
transporter of materials from											
Fianarantsoa to site.											
Training of members of the local			Х								
committee to oversee & monitor work											
('COST').											
Ordering of equipment required,	Х	Х									
including doors & windows, furniture,											
etc.											
Recruiting of storekeeper & community			Х								
mobilisation agent to work in											
Ambatofotsy.											
Procurement and transport of materials			Х	Х	Х	Х	Х				
& equipment to site.											
Contracting of builders for the project				Х							
and their installation at site.											
Community preparation of the land for		Х	Х	Х							
the building (removal of vegetation,											
levelling land).			T								
Foundations ceremony on the 23 rd March				Х							
2018 and start of laying foundations.											
Building work (school building,				Х	Х	Х	Х				
impluvium and sanitation block).											
Regular monitoring of work and			Х	Х	Х	Х	Х				
achievement of community											
contributions.					1						
Delivery of school furniture.								Х			Х
Technical acceptance of works on the							Х				
23 rd June 2018, including provision of											
tool kit for the school.											
Preparatory work for extension of									Х	Х	
gravity-fed water system.											
Extension of gravity-fed water system:											Х
Installation of tap-stand at Ambatofotsy											
Lycée											



Figure 4: Ambatofotsy Lycée with delighted beneficiaries – August 2018.

Details on the project

After a slightly slow start, due to a combination of discussion over where to site the new school building and waiting until the worst of the rainy season was over, building work on the Ambatofotsy Lycée (High School) began in March 2018. The foundations-laying ceremony, held on the 23rd March, was attended by the Mayor of Ambatofotsy, the head-teacher of the Lycée, members of the parents' association, the traditional authorities of the area, the FBM/NT team, the builders and the local community.



Figure 5: Photos from the foundations ceremony: the traditional blessing by a village elder.

Work progress was at times slowed as a result of delays to local supplies of sand, gravel and stones, and because the start of building work still fell within the rainy season. Regular monitoring and support trips were carried out by the FBM-NT regional team in Fianarantsoa to help resolve problems that arose, and to assess progress in collaboration with the local COST committee members as well as the local authorities. Members of the COST committee ensured the permanent monitoring of building work and materials, and checked that community contributions to the project were achieved on time – including the presence of labourers on a daily basis.

The following were community contributions to the project:

- Levelling the land before building started.
- Housing the builders and providing the storeroom.
- Unloading the materials transported from Fianarantsoa.
- Unskilled labour. On average five people per day turned up to work at the building site fetching water required during building, helping the builders, carrying sand and materials, and other needs.
- A third of the required building stones and gravel, and all of the sand.
- Round wood (for scaffolding).
- Planting a hedge around the school grounds: 'Radriaka' (Lantana camara) was used.



Figure 6: Community contributions to the Ambatofotsy Lycée project: carrying materials to site.

Since many of Ambatofotsy's administrational neighbourhoods are significant distances from the Lycée, the highest participation levels were of villagers from the three nearest neighbourhoods. However, in addition to these, the remote Tsaratanana neighbourhood also showed proof of incredible determination and motivation. This is a neighbourhood bordering the rainforest where FBM-NT built a primary school in 2012 with extremely high levels of community contributions.

Building work on the Ambatofotsy Lycée ended on the 22nd June 2018 and the official verification of works was carried out the following day. This was attended by the head of education for Ikongo district, the head of education for Ambatofotsy municipality, the local municipality authorities, the head-teacher and teachers, students, members of the parents' association, the local population, FBM/NT and the builders. After assessing all aspects of the infrastructure, everybody was entirely happy with the builders' work. However, three remarks were made concerning outstanding work that should be completed as part of the community's contributions to the project, notably:

- The levelling of the bank behind the school building.
- The removal of 6 columns, relics of the old building, which are located in front of the new school building.
- Completion of hedge-planting around the school grounds.

An action plan was drawn up with regard to these three points.

After various speeches in which profuse thanks were expressed to the Eagle Fondation, Feedback Madagascar / Ny Tanintsika, the builders and the COST committee, the keys to the building were handed over to the head-teacher together with the President of the association of parents of students.

Some materials were left for the school to use, including paint, nails, spades and shovels, metal barrels, jerrycans and wheelbarrows.



Figure 7: Handing over the keys to Ambatofotsy Lycée's head-teacher.



Figure 9: The builders' team with the mayor of Ambatofotsy.



Figure 8: Provision of tool kit for repairs.



Figure 10: Speech ceremony with the head of the district education authorities.

As a result of the prolonged national teachers' strike followed by the school holidays, training has yet to be held for members of the school Maintenance and Repairs Committee ('CER'). This is planned for December 2018. The CER plays a crucial role for the sustainability of the school building, furniture, impluvium and sanitation block, regrouping members of the parents association, a teacher representative and one pupil per class. It works closely with the head-teacher and the president of the parents association to ensure regular maintenance and timely repairs to the infrastructure. A tool kit has already been provided to the school order to make repairs (handed over at the completion of works ceremony).

As stipulated in the contract signed between the Ambatofotsy Lycée and Feedback Madagascar-Ny Tanintsika, the head-teacher is required to send annual reports of the school's progress including any repairs carried out.



Figure 11: Beneficiaries outside their new school.

Features of the new school building are as follows:

- One building of 3 classrooms, measuring 22.5m x 8m x 4.69m in total (height of the gable 1.4m).
- Stone foundations (depth 60cm, width 50cm) and cement breezeblock walls with a reinforced concrete structure. Each breezeblock measures 15 x 20 x 40cm.
- Cement rendering on inside and outside walls (2cm thick).
- Cyclone-proof tin roofing (sheeting thickness 4/10).
- Double metal doors with hooks to hold them open on the outside, and each closed with 2 padlocks.
- Each classroom with 3 windows dimensions 1.8 x 1.2m. Windows with glass panes, opening to the inside with protection grill on the outside. Awnings to protect the posterior windows from the rain. Additional aeration above windows in each classroom.
- Reinforced concrete front and back guttering (integrated into the building design) links to a 7m³ water tank serving as a hand-washing station to the side of the building, which has 3 taps. This is located between the latrines and the school to promote hand-washing at key moments. The tank is equipped with a lockable 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. A system was integrated to ensure the first rainwater (which would bring the dirt from the roof) is diverted from entering the tank via two PVC downpipes with removable stopper at the bottom.



Figure 12: Hand-washing from the rainwater-catchment system at the new school.

- Two-tone colouring of school and sanitary block (interior and exterior); oil paint at the base up until a height of 1.5 metres to protect from dirt, and water-based paint higher-up.
- Cement ceilings (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 (1.8 x 0.6 x 0.5 metres) in each classroom made of cement breezeblocks, 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 with a hole at least 4 metres deep) with separate girls/boys urinal behind. The urinals are roofed to prevent rainwater from entering the toilets (which might cause 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.
 These in addition to 24 additional school desks, 2 tables, 2 chairs, 2 bureau and 1 cupboard for existing classrooms.
- A tap-stand linked to the village's gravity-fed water supply, to provide clean drinking water for the school.



Figure 13: Explanation during the technical verification of works.



Figure 14: Verification of the impluvium rainwater catchment system.



Figure 15: Verification of the sanitation block.



Figure 16: The furnished classrooms.

Difficulties encountered

Difficulties encountered include the poor state of the road to Ambatofotsy, some delays to supplies of materials and insufficient labourers on certain days. Delays to materials such as stones and gravel were mainly due to the distance between the quarry and the building site (about 500 metres). However, in general no major problems were encountered during work as solutions were found by the COST members. The head-teacher and the Mayor of Ambatofotsy also took active roles in resolving an issue that arose.

As reported in the project's progress report, after feasibility studies conducted by our water engineers, this site was unfortunately found to be unfeasible for borehole installation due to the rocky soil structure. However, as an alternative in order to provide clean drinking water to the school, negotiations were made that allowed us to extend the existing gravity-fed water catchment system in Ambatofotsy so that it serves this high school (lycée). This central water system is due to be renovated in 2019 via a USAID-funded project that Ny Tanintsika are working on, which should ensure year-round sufficiency in water.



Figure 17: Preparing the materials for the project, and finishing touches to work.



Figure 18: The new Ambatofotsy Lycée building and sanitation block.

Project beneficiaries

The following table provides data on project beneficiaries, based on the school year 2017-2018:

Pupil numbers	<i>"Seconde"</i> (1 st year at Lycée)	<i>"Première</i> " literacy branch (2 nd year at Lycée)	<i>"Première"</i> scientific branch (2 nd year)	<i>"Terminale</i> " (3 rd year at Lycée)	Total
Boys	35	19	08	29	91
Girls	18	07	06	17	48
Total	53	26	14	46	139

Data source: Lycée Ambatofotsy May 2018

However, in addition to this, 102 local secondary school students passed their "BEPC" exams and are likely to want to continue their studies at the Ambatofotsy Lycée. The exact number of student beneficiaries will only be known after the start of the next school year, on the 19th November 2018.

Other direct beneficiaries are the 9 teaching staff (5 civil servants and 4 paid by the parents association).

Indirect beneficiaries include the 11 neighbourhoods (Fokontany) of Ambatofotsy municipality together with the population of Ambatofotsy neighbourhood (numbering 6,205). The Ambatofotsy municipality comprises 14 state primary schools and 2 state secondary schools.



Figure 19: The new tap-stand (lockable for security/to prevent damage) located near to the new school building.

Expenditure summary

Items	Budget (£)	Funds received (MGA)	Expenditure (£)	Difference with amount received (£)	Explanation of difference
Materials for the new school buildings (3 classrooms), Latrines/ urinal & Hand-washing unit	10,936	48,480,175.00	10,996	-296	
Transport costs (building materials and furniture)	2,368	10,216,136	1,932	385	
Labour costs	3,908	16,856,625	3,931	-108	
School furniture (not including transport costs)	1,220	5,261,310	1,057	137	
Water supply	3,289	3,347,865	960	-201	
Monitoring & evaluation costs	776	14,189,078	1,599	1,619	Higher number of field trips required & prolonged duration of project.
Administration/ overheads	1,675	7,223,897	1,727	-89	
Total	24,173	97,888,011	22,202	1,447	

Current situation

	Situation pre- project	Expected situation post-project	Real situation post-project
Number of existing parent- built classrooms	Two classrooms useable.	Five classrooms can be used. This is sufficient for their current requirements.	Six classrooms (the three existing rooms were renovated this year by the association of parents of students).
Number of classrooms currently borrowed	One classroom from the Ambatofotsy Secondary School.	No classrooms will be borrowed.	The need to borrow rooms to use as classrooms will depend on the number of new students that will enrol in November 2018.
School office	Two rooms exist already.	They will continue to use the existing two rooms.	They continue to use the existing school office which comprises two rooms.
WASH (Water – Sanitation – Hygiene)	Basic latrines exist. No water supply.	Sanitation block of 3- compartment latrines and boys/girls urinals will be built, along with a hand-washing unit. A borehole installed with a hand- pump will be put in place for clean drinking water.	Sanitation block comprising 3-compartment latrines and boys/girls urinals, along with a hand- washing unit. The gravity-fed water supply system in Ambatofotsy was extended in order to supply clean drinking water via the building of a tap-stand at the Lycée.

Conclusion

This project to build the Ambatofotsy Lycée (High School) went smoothly, with building work lasting 90 days. However, finding a solution to the school's water supply led to delays in project completion, with the new tapstand installed in October 2018. Students and teachers alike are excited to be using their new school building and infrastructure as of the 2018-2019 school year, which does not start in Madagascar until the 19th November as a result of the gradual moving of the school calendar so that the main school holidays will eventually coincide with the rainy season (and rice harvest period). Everyone is confident that the school's Baccalaureate exam pass rate will increase in the future, improving from this year's disappointing result of 57%.



Thank-you the Eagle Foundation for funding this project!

Figure 20: Sign at the Ambatofotsy High School which includes awareness-raising messages; encouraging people to take care of their new infrastructure, & the slogan "Education is the best inheritance you can give [your child]".



Figure 21: Handing-over the tool kit to the Ambatofotsy Lycée.

Appendix 1: Photos showing the evolution of the building work



Preliminary meetings in Ambatofotsy in December 2017:







Meeting before the foundations ceremony (builders, COST, FBM-NT, head-teacher)

Digging the foundations



Builders' levelling equipment

Delivery of sand to the site

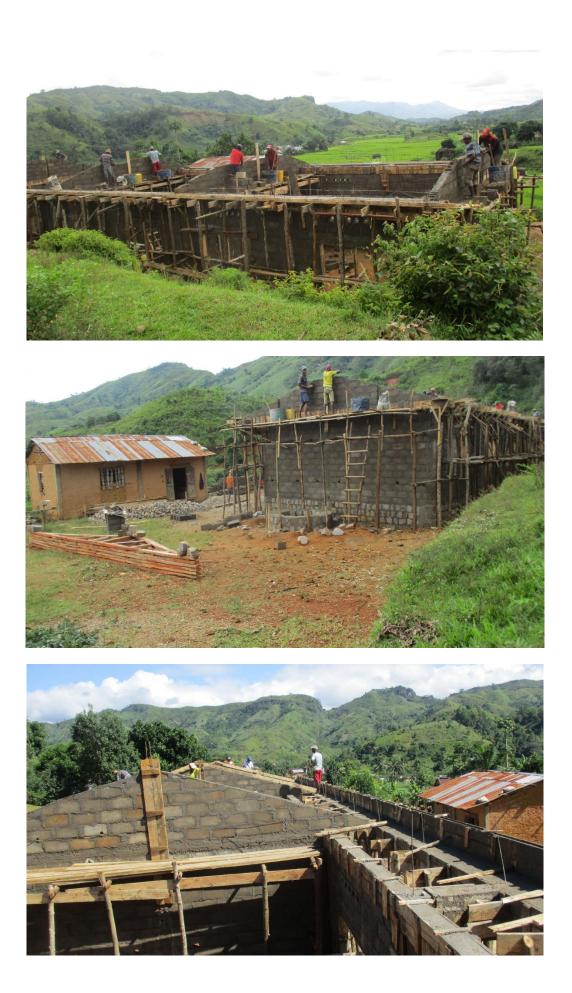


Digging the foundations (left) & delivery of the window protection grills (right).



Photos taken on the 18th April 2018:











Photos taken on the 31st May 2018:











Appendix 2: Letter of authorisation to extend the gravity-fed water system in Ambatofotsy to benefit the High School

Translation: "In response to the request that we received, the Mayor of Ambatofotsy municipality gives full authorisation to FBM/NT to supply the High School with clean drinking water, as their difficulty and suffering as a result of lack of water is clear".

FARLIRA VATUNENY FITCHINANY REPOBLIKAN'I MADAGASIKARA CICTARAN * Fitiavana -Tanindrazana-Fandrosoana IKCHES N: 31 /14/CARI An FANOMEZAN-DALANA Arakan'ny fangatahana tonga teto aminay androany enina Aogositra . NY Ben'ny Tanana eto amin'ny Kaominina Ambatofotsy dia manome alalana feno ny mba hanaovana Rano fisotro madio fa hite ary fantatra fa tena sahirana tokoa ry zareo amin'ny Rano fisotro sy hisasana. Koa nohon'izany dia omenay Ben'ny Tanana alalana feno ianareo ONG NY TANITSIKA 1ba hanaao izany asa izany. Omena azy ity fanomezan-dalana ity mba hampiasainy sy hasehony amin'izayy rehetra ilany azy. Fait à Ambatofotsy le 06 AUG 2018 le Maire de la Commune P.O I' Adjoint Jananyas) OWWOOMAHASOLO Fredéric

Appendix 3: Thank-you letters from the community & school

Thank-you letter for the school building:

REPOBLIKAN I MASAGASIKARA Filiavana - Tamindratana - Fandrospana La Président FRAM et Proviseur + VATOVAVY-FITOVINIANY DREH I KONGO Lyrée Ambatofotny - IKONGO CISCO : AMBATD FOTS Y ZAP LAGLE FOUSATION 1 AMBATOFOTS J LYCEE FINANCEMENT FEEDBACK MADAGASCAR ONG NY TANINI SI KA FIANARAVISOA OBJET : Remerciment Monsieur ! Nous avons respectueusement l'honneux de sollicites Votre haute bienveillance à bien vouloir, considerer mar lettre remerciment leaucoup à vous aideq Il I a longtemps qu'an a reve d'avoir un local le norme, qui servira de valle de classe aux élevres de Lyee Ambabafating District Ikongo. Aujourd'hui mos reve sont devenus reels grace a vous, Eagle Foundation, Financement Feedback Nadagaseas et ONO MyTanintrika à Fianscantroa qui Nous a parmis d'avoir s'opportunité de la ceneficier de ce beau bâtiments Ain's au nom du fokonolona, Parents d'élève et a mon nom attent que Chef d'etablissement Nous Vous demandons d'accepter nos suis remerciment ainsi que uns souhaite de bonheur et de prosperite. Sait à Ambobyotay Le 00 Avit 2018 de la Commune Adjoint FRAM EUR mina RY OLerlin

Thank-you letter for the tap-stand for Ambatofotsy School:

REPOBLIKAN' I MADAGASIKADA Fitiaxane - Tanindravane - Fandrosoana. DREN : VATOVAVD · FITOVINANY President FRAM Lycee, CISCO : F K O NIG O CEG et Provisent Lycée, CAP : AMBATOFOTSY Directrice CEG Ambatopotry LYCEE : AMBATOFOTSY à TIANARANTSOA

OBJET : Remerciment Madame

Nous Avons respectueusement l'honneur de sollicites votre haute tienveillance à bien voulois, consideres ma lettre remerciment Deaucoup, à vous donnez l'adduction d'eau potable.

Notre organisation qui nous a permis d'avoir J'oportinité de baneficier de boir d'eau propre

Ainsi au nom du Parents d'élève, du Professeuss et élèves de vous demande d'acceptes mos sufs Remerciment, ainsi que mos multaile de prosperite

Derci 1.

P.O Thisinana Eugerie J. Dte Profession du LEC d'Ambalogotz



fait à Ambatifoto Le 11 9 10/ 18.

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Thank-you letter for the school furniture:

REPOBLIKAN'I MADAGASIKARA

Fitiavama - Tamindragama - Fandrosoa

DREN : VATOVAVY - FITOVINANY

CISCO: IKONGO ZAP: AMBATOFOTSY LYCEF: AMBATOFOTSY Momsieur Le Président FRAM Lycé et Proviseur Ambatofotsy IKONGO à EAGLE FOUDATION à FINANCEMENT FEEDBACK MADAGASCAR à ONG NY TANINTSIKA FIANARANTSOA

OBJET: Remerciment

Monsieur!

Nous avons respectueuxement l'hommeur de solliciter votre haute bienveillance à bien vouloir, considerer ma lettre de remerciment à vos aide:

> 1. Table banco soixente douze (72) 2. Table cing et chaise cing (05)

3. Une Armoire

Aujourd'hui mos rêve somt devenus réels grace à vous : Eagle Fondation, Financement Feedback Madagascar et OHG NY Tamintsika à Fiamarantsoa qui nous a permis d'avoir J'apportunité de beneficier de ces matériels didactiques. Ainsi au nom des Parents d'élèves et à mon nom en tant que chef d'établissement, on souhaite de bomheur et de tablissement, on

Fait a Amban Bar Revos 20 Perily 18

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Appendix 4: Thank-you letter from the district education authorities





MINISTERE DE L'EDUCATION NATIONALE

DIRECTION REGIONALE DE L'EDUCATION NATIONALE VATOVAVY FITOVINANY

> CIRCONSCRIPTION SCOLAIRE IKONGO

A

EAGLES FOUNDATION/FBM/NT

OBJET : Lettre de remerciement.

Au nom du Gouvernement Malagasy,

- dirigé par Le Président de la République ;
- le Ministre de l'Education Nationale ;
- le Directeur Régionale de l'Education Nationale Vatovavy Fitovinany ;
- le Chef CISCO d'Ikongo ;

, nous avons les plaisirs de vous remercier, **EAGLES FOUNDATION** /FBM/NT, pour la réalisation de la Construction en dure (parpaing) de un (01) nouvel bâtiment scolaire à 03 (trois) salles de classe, 72 tables bancs, 5 tables de bureaux et 5 chaises pour Maître, une (01) armoire, et armoire intégré par salle, latrines à 3 compartiments avec pissoir (garçon et fille) et point de lavage de main pour le Lycée Ambatofotsy, Commune Rurale d'Ambatofotsy, District d'Ikongo, Région Vatovavy Fitovinany, Faritany de Fianarantsoa.

En outre, nous souhaitons la continuité de notre collaboration à la construction d'autres infrastructures scolaires dans notre CISCO, pour encourager les élèves et l'allègement des parents, en affirmant que nous sommes toujours prêts à la réalisation de nos apports bénéficiaires.

Fait à IKONGO, le 04 0CT. 2018