



eagle  
foundation



**Final report of the construction of a new school  
building for the Ambohitsara I Primary School  
(FF 688)**



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

**2025**

## Contents

Introduction .....	4
Project location .....	4
Calendar of achievements .....	5
Details on the project.....	6
Challenges and delays.....	7
Project beneficiaries .....	8
Expenditure summary.....	9
Current situation .....	10
Conclusion.....	10
Photos .....	11
Appendix .....	14

## Figures

Figure 1: Foundations ceremony demonstrating respect for ancestors, and launch of work. ....	11
Figure 2: Land levelling and sand transporting.....	11
Figure 3: Work in progress.....	11
Figure 4: Construction of latrines and impluvium .....	12
Figure 5: Work in progress.....	12
Figure 6: End of the work.....	12
Figure 7:Pupils happy inside the classroom with desks and tables .....	13
Figure 8 Happy children washing their hands at the hand-washing facility fed by the impluvium (left), and children expressing their joy in front of the school (right). ....	13
Figure 9 Technical acceptance of works, and inauguration.....	13
Figure 10 Technical acceptance report.....	16

- a. Donor Name: Foundation Eagle
- b. Name of Charity and Project: Feedback Madagascar / Ambohitsara I Primary school Project
- c. Reference Number: FF 688
- d. Date of grant accepted: 6<sup>th</sup> December 2024
- e. Amount: 32,904 GBP
- f. Number of beneficiaries: The direct beneficiaries include 134 current students (71 boys and 63 girls) and 5 teachers (2 male and 3 female) from Ambohitsara I village, which consists of over 100 households. Indirectly, the project will benefit the entire municipality of Tsaratanana, with a total population of 40,926 people.
- g. Name and exact location of the project: Ambohitsara I village, Tsaratanana rural municipality in Ifanadiana district, Vatovavy region, SE Madagascar, Africa.
- h. Expected period of the project: December 2023 – July 2024
- i. Conversion rate, date & amount in local currency: 185,803,556.95 MGA on the 28/02/24 (exchange rate 5,646.84 MGA / £1)

Report submitted 16/6/2025



Samantha Cameron  
Country Director

## Introduction

Established in 1978, Ambohitsara I Primary School has been a symbol of the local community's dedication to education. Despite the absence of government support, the villagers have continually worked together to maintain and rebuild the school, particularly in the aftermath of cyclone damage. However, the high levels of poverty in the area have limited their ability to invest in resilient, cyclone-proof buildings. This has led to a growing need for improved infrastructure to address both the deterioration of the existing facilities and the increasing number of students.

The existing school buildings, made with local materials, were not designed to withstand the frequent cyclones that hit the region. Moreover, the growing student population outpaced the school's capacity. Classes for the youngest pupils, such as first and second graders, were combined into one overcrowded classroom. Many pupils were forced to sit on the floor without desks, severely impacting their comfort, well-being, and ability to learn effectively.

To address these urgent challenges, the Ambohitsara I School Project was realised, made possible through a partnership between Feedback Madagascar (FBM) and the Eagle Foundation, signed the 9<sup>th</sup> December 2023, with funding of £32,904. This project aimed to construct a new school building in Ambohitsara I; three fully furnished classrooms, a latrine/urinal/shower block, a rainwater catchment system with a handwashing unit, two gazebos, and a tree nursery.

This project not only focused on improving educational infrastructure but also sought to enhance hygiene and sanitation at the school. In a region where subsistence agriculture is the primary livelihood and access to clean water is limited, improving hygiene practices is critical for reducing the prevalence of diarrhoeal diseases. FBM's water team also assessed the feasibility of drilling a borehole to supply clean drinking water to both the school and the village, and additional funding has been secured for this to be realised in June 2025.

This progress report will provide details of achievements, the challenges encountered, and the impact of these efforts in helping to uplift a community striving for a brighter future for its children. The long-term goals of this project aim to increase access to education, raise educational standards, and contribute to poverty reduction in this remote and underprivileged region.

## Project location

This construction project took place in Ambohitsara I village, located within the Tsaratanana rural municipality, in the Ifanadiana district of the Vatovavy region, in southeastern Madagascar. The remoteness of this area presents a challenge in terms of logistics and access.

The journey from Fianarantsoa, the nearest major town, to Ambohitsara I village is 232 kilometres. It commences with a 90-kilometre drive along the RN25 tarmac road to Ifanadiana. From there, a 17-kilometre drive along a secondary track, suitable for motorbikes, trucks, and 4WD vehicles, leads to Tsaratanana centre. The final stretch to Ambohitsara I necessitates a 5-kilometre journey on foot, typically taking approximately an hour, as this section is not accessible by vehicle.

The remote and rugged terrain presents logistical challenges, particularly in the transportation of construction materials and the accessibility of the project site. Nevertheless, it serves to underscore the significance of the project in enhancing educational infrastructure in a community that is otherwise inaccessible.

GPS coordinates: Latitude 21°11'14.92"S Longitude 47°39'53.91"E

## Calendar of achievements

The table provides a visual representation of the implementation schedule. Planned activities are indicated by grey-shaded cells, while 'X' marks represent the actual timing of realisations.

Activity	2024												2025			
	Jan	Feb	Mar	Apr	May	Jun	July	Aug	Sept	Oct	Nov	Dec	Jan	Feb	Mar	Apr
Project coordination meeting.	X															
Information letter sent to local authorities & partners involved in the project.	X															
First meeting at site to meet beneficiaries, identify & train members of the local committee to supervise and control work ('COST'), identify the storeroom /accommodation for the team, draw up an action plan concerning local materials & their transport, & the start of work.	X															
Signing of the agreement defining roles & responsibilities of each stakeholder in the project.					X											
Land levelling and clearance work.		X	X	X	X											
Recruitment of qualified & experienced building supervisor & project manager.			X	X												
Ordering and paying for the materials and equipment required for the project.				X			X	X	X	X						
Contracting the transporter to deliver materials.							X									
Contracting the team to make cement blocks.								X								
Hiring people to break up building stones/make gravel.							X									
Stone-breaking work.							X	X	X							
Delivery of the necessary materials and equipment.							X		X	X	X	X				
Regular monitoring of community contributions and support for community organisation.		X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X		
Progress report.								X								
Contracting the builders for the project, planning meeting and preparation for the start of builders' work.									X							

Activity	2024												2025			
	Jan	Feb	Mar	Apr	May	Jun	July	Aug	Sept	Oct	Nov	Dec	Jan	Feb	Mar	Apr
Builders set up on site.										X						
Laying the foundations.										X						
Building school walls.										X						
Project monitoring visits by Fianarantsoa office staff.				X	X		X		X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X
Laying the gable and formwork.										X						
Installation of purlins and roofing for the school.											X	X				
Construction of a toilet block and installation of a rainwater collection system (impluvium).											X				X	
Interior and exterior rendering work, installation of doors and windows.											X			X	X	
Painting and finishing.															X	X
Site clean-up, finishing touches and completion.																X
Work stoppage.													X			
Technical acceptance of works.																X
Provisional acceptance of works & handover of keys.																X
Assembling the school desks on site.														X		
Training for members of the school's maintenance & repair committee (CER), & provision of a tool kit.																X
Site withdrawal.																X
Final report.																X

### [Details on the project](#)

The implementation of the cyclone-resistant school construction project at Ambohitsara I village followed a phased approach, combining technical works, community involvement, and coordination with local stakeholders.

### **Preparation and Community Engagement**

The project began with coordination meetings among the implementing teams, followed by awareness-raising among local authorities and partners. Initial site visits were conducted to meet beneficiaries, identify and train members of the community-based works monitoring committees (COST), and assess the availability of local materials such as sand and stone. Accommodation and storage options for materials and workers were also planned at this stage.

### **Site Preparation and Local Contributions**

The land was cleared and levelled with the help of the local community. Recruitment processes were launched for a qualified building supervisor and project manager. At the same time, community mobilisation ensured local participation in the sourcing and transport of materials. Contracts were signed with service providers for the delivery of construction materials and the production of cement breezeblocks.

Community members were hired to crush stones and produce gravel for the project. Progressively, the delivery of construction materials to the site began, although challenges such as delays in sand delivery and difficulties in planting hedges were encountered.

### **Construction Phase**

Once materials and personnel were in place, the foundations of the classrooms were laid, followed by the construction of the walls, installation of the gables and roofing structure, and the placement of the metal roofing sheets. In parallel, a sanitation block was built, including three-compartment latrines, boys' and girls' urinals, two shower cubicles, and a rainwater harvesting system (impluvium).

Doors and windows were installed, and internal and external rendering works were carried out. Finishing works such as painting, classroom furnishing, and site cleaning followed shortly after.

### **Finalisation and Handover**

As the construction drew to a close, training sessions were organised for the School Maintenance and Repair Committee (CER), and a toolkit was provided to support long-term upkeep of the infrastructure. The project underwent technical inspection, followed by provisional acceptance and the official handover of keys to the school.

### **Challenges and delays**

The project encountered several challenges during its implementation, particularly at the outset.

A key issue was the initially low engagement of community members in the construction process, which delayed the planned timeline. In response, the project team increased community mobilisation efforts, encouraged local ownership, and covered meals for on-site workers—recognising the economic vulnerability of many households.

Logistical constraints also played a role. The unavailability of transportable sand in the immediate area required the identification of new sand extraction zones. Moreover, all construction materials had to be transported manually over 5 km, from Tsaratanana to Ambohitsara, due to the lack of vehicular access. NT-FBM directly supported the human-powered transport of materials along this difficult route.

To overcome these issues, the project revitalised the local Works Monitoring Committee (COST) and strengthened the involvement of local authorities. Teachers across the Tsaratanana I zone volunteered to assist in transporting sand and stones, and ultimately, the construction was completed largely by villagers from Ambohitsara village, demonstrating a strong sense of ownership and collective effort.

### Project beneficiaries

Based on the school year 2024-2025, the following table provides data on direct project beneficiaries, the pupils.

School Name	Nursery		Grade 1		Grade 2		Grade 3		Grade 4		Grade 5	
	B	G	B	G	B	G	B	G	B	G	B	G
EPP AMBOHITSARA I	14	15	33	28	19	11	16	10	3	13	6	2
<b>Total</b>	<b>29</b>		<b>61</b>		<b>30</b>		<b>26</b>		<b>16</b>		<b>8</b>	

The total number of pupils is 170 (79 girls and 91 boys). This is up from 134 at the time of the project proposal in 2023.

The population of Ambohitsara village is 292; 140 men and 152 women.

The population of Tsaratanana municipality is a total of 40,926 people.

## Expenditure summary

Budget line	Budget		Funds received	Expenditure	Difference with budget	Difference with amount received
	MGA	£	MGA	MGA	MGA	MGA
Building materials	100,416,920	18,569	104,856,134	87,302,600	13,114,320	17,553,534
Transport of building materials and furniture	13,500,000	2,925	16,517,001	23,132,238	-9,632,238	-6,615,236
Labour	37,500,000	7,075	39,951,379	42,221,603	-4,721,603	-2,270,224
Furniture, 2 gazebos & tree nursery	5,650,000	1,066	6,019,529	5,086,000	564,000	933,529
Project Monitoring & Evaluation	6,711,000	1,266	7,148,897	7,419,869	-708,869	-270,972
Project management	10,615,312	2,003	11,310,616	10,615,312	0	695,304
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>174,393,232</b>	<b>32,904</b>	<b>185,803,557</b>	<b>175,777,621</b>	<b>-1,384,389</b>	<b>10,025,936</b>

	MGA	GBP
Budget	174,393,232	32,904
Funds Received	185,803,557	32,904
Expenditure	175,777,621	33,166
Variance/ Budget	-1,384,389	- 262
Variance/ Funds received	10,025,936	- 262

## Current situation

The construction work in Ambohitsara I is now fully completed. The new school building is operational and being used by pupils and teachers. The site is clean, functional, and well-integrated into the daily life of the village. Community pride and commitment to maintaining the infrastructure is strong, thanks to the high level of local involvement in the project.

	<b>Pre-project situation</b>	<b>Expected situation post-project</b>	<b>Actual situation post-project</b>
Number of existing classrooms	3 buildings comprising 4 classrooms. The most recent addition was built by parents of pupils post-cyclone with some financial support from Mary's Meals via FBM.	3 newly-built cyclone-proof classrooms functional. Continued use of 3 existing classrooms so that each of the 5 primary school years have their own classroom, as well as nursery school pupils.	Three new cyclone-resistant classrooms now in use, complementing three existing ones to provide dedicated spaces for each of the five primary grades and nursery pupils.
Number of classrooms borrowed	None.	None.	None.
Classes grouped together	Pupils in the first and second years of primary school are grouped together in one classroom.	No need to group classes together – each school year will have their own classroom. At least one additional teacher is due to be added.	Each grade now has its own classroom, eliminating the need to combine classes.
Existence of a refectory	None	One of the existing classrooms will be used as a refectory to stop classrooms being used for school lunches (which both dirties them and can also reduce lesson time).	One classroom serves as a refectory, preventing disruption to lessons and keeping learning spaces clean during lunch.
WASH (Water – Sanitation – Hygiene)	The school only had basic toilets that did not meet hygiene standards.	A sanitation block of 3-compartment latrines and boys/girls' urinals will be built, along with 2 shower cubicles and a hand-washing unit.	A sanitation block with three latrines, separate urinals for boys and girls, two shower cubicles, and a handwashing station has been built. A borehole is currently being installed with other funding.

## Conclusion

Despite initial delays and logistical hurdles, the school construction project in Ambohitsara I has been successfully completed. The outcome reflects a strong collaboration between the community, education stakeholders, and the implementing organisations. This experience highlights the importance of flexibility, local ownership, and continued engagement in overcoming challenges and ensuring sustainable results in remote rural contexts.

## Photos



*Figure 1: Foundations ceremony demonstrating respect for ancestors, and launch of work.*



*Figure 2: Land levelling and sand transporting*



*Figure 3: Work in progress*



Figure 4: Construction of latrines and impluvium



Figure 5: Work in progress



Figure 6: End of the work



Figure 7: Pupils happy inside the classroom with desks and tables



Figure 8 Happy children washing their hands at the hand-washing facility fed by the impluvium (left), and children expressing their joy in front of the school (right).

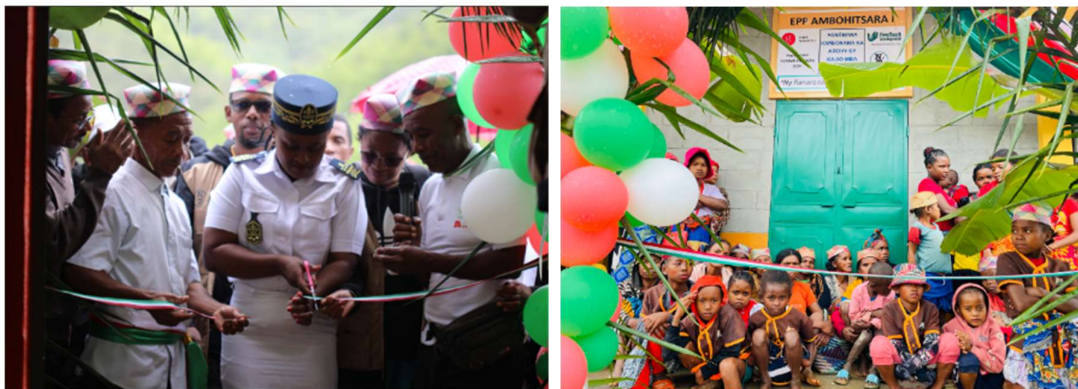


Figure 9 Technical acceptance of works, and inauguration

Appendix

AMBOHITSARA I FAHA 30 APRIL 2025

Ambositrana faha 30 Aprily 2025

ToVO Iampifanampiana'n'ny Betsileo  
Jintana  
Lehibe'n'ny Serapitanana, Alakabaka  
na-Belagijiba Tsaratana I


Ho an'

NY ONF NJ TANINTSIKA

Antony: Eantany fiovana  
ny fankatrahana Eompoko,  
nito ny fankasana  
tsara tsahy.

Voninahitra ho raky ny rindoga  
variana ny mahaikitra eo ambony ny mahaikitra  
ny fankatrahana ny fiovana ny fankatrahana  
na mahaikitra ny fankatrahana tsahy tsahy na mahaikitra  
ny EFT Ankaritaha I, 24<sup>e</sup> Tsaratana I, na tsahy  
ny mahaikitra tsahy  
- Tsara tsahy ny tsahy tsahy (03) na  
mahaikitra 22m x 8m ny fankatrahana mahaikitra 8000L  
- Tsara fankatrahana mahaikitra (03) ny fankatrahana  
- fankatrahana (03) na ny fankatrahana mahaikitra  
- Tsara fankatrahana (02).

Ho an'ny fankatrahana ny fiovana  
na fankatrahana tsahy tsahy.



Thank-you letter from the head of education in Tsaratanana municipality:

"We are honoured to write this letter of thanks and recognition to the Eagle Foundation, Feedback Madagascar and Ny Tanintsika for building this school (measuring 22m x 8m) to a high standard, complete with three classrooms, an 8,000-litre water tank, three toilets, two shower cubicles & urinals behind, as well as two gazebos. We look forward to continued collaboration."

Thank you letter from the ZAP (municipality education authorities):

"We, ZAP Tsaratanana I, are honoured to write this letter to thank you and show our appreciation for providing us with new primary school buildings in Sandrakely and Ambohitsara I, where we collaborated with Ny Tanintsika and Feedback Madagascar, with the financial support of the Eagle Foundation.

We are very grateful to you and hope that our collaboration will continue in ZAP Tsaratanana I, CISCO Ifanadiana and DREN Vatovavy.

Please accept our thanks and respects."

Tsaratanana faha 30 Aprily 2025

ToVO Iampifanampiana'n'ny Betsileo  
Jintana  
Lehibe'n'ny Serapitanana, Alakabaka  
na-Belagijiba'n'ny Tsaratana I


Ho an'

NY ONF NJ TANINTSIKA

Eompoko,

Voninahitra tsahy ho raky ny rindoga  
variana ny mahaikitra eo ambony ny  
mahaikitra ny fankatrahana ny fiovana ny fankatrahana  
na mahaikitra ny fankatrahana tsahy tsahy na mahaikitra  
ny EFT Ankaritaha I, 24<sup>e</sup> Tsaratana I, na tsahy  
ny mahaikitra tsahy  
- Tsara tsahy ny tsahy tsahy (03) na  
mahaikitra 22m x 8m ny fankatrahana mahaikitra 8000L  
- Tsara fankatrahana mahaikitra (03) ny fankatrahana  
- fankatrahana (03) na ny fankatrahana mahaikitra  
- Tsara fankatrahana (02).

Ho an'ny fankatrahana ny fiovana  
na fankatrahana tsahy tsahy.



Thank-you letter from the head-teacher of Ambohitsara Primary School:

“It is an honour for us to be able to write you this letter of thanks for EAGLE FOUNDATION, as well as Feedback Madagascar and Ny Tanintsika for this school that you have built for us where we can see three large classrooms, a water tank of 8,000 litres, two showers as well as three latrines and girls/boys’ urinals, and two gazebos. We request our continued collaboration.

Respectfully yours”



# THANK YOU EAGLE FOUNDATION FOR OUR SCHOOL!

## NY TANINTSIKA – FEEDBACK MADAGASCAR

Lot II M 98 | Antsakaviro, Antananarivo 101

Email: nt.fnr@moov.mg

www.feedbackmadagascar.net



### TRAVAUX DE CONSTRUCTION D'UN BATIMENT SCOLAIRE A TROIS (03) SALLES DE CLASSE, ET UN BLOC SANITAIRE A CINQ BOXS POUR

EPP AMBOHITSARA, ZAP TSARATANANA I,  
 CR TSARATANANA, DISTRICT IFANADIANA,  
 REGION VATOVANY

### PROCES-VERBAL DE RECEPTION TECHNIQUE DES TRAVAUX

L'an deux mille vingt-cinq, et le 30, du mois de Avril, nous, membres de la commission de réception de travaux, sommes rendu sur le chantier pour constater l'achèvement des travaux de construction d'un bâtiment scolaire à l'EPP AMBOHITSARA I et de procéder à la réception techniques des travaux cités en objet.

Etaient présent :

- PATRICIA Bony Akah Akbar (chef district Ifanadiana)
- BATACHARIVELO xavus (Assistant parlementaire)
- ANARIAINAHERY Haingonainy Bonpas (DC/INAF CISCO Ifanadiana)
- MAROLANTY Paul (Maire d'Ambohitara)
- Haingonainy Razafimanantsoa (Directrice de Budget et Finances)
- RAZAFIMANANTSOA Philibert (Maire) Feedback Madagascar
- HERY Mamy (STC/NTIFBM)

Compte tenu des constatations faites sur places, nous avons reconnu que les travaux sont réalisés en totalité et répondent dans l'ensemble aux exigences des contrats et des règles de l'art. Sauf soins des finitions et quelque petite réparation sur les ouvrages cités ci-dessous :

- Finition banquettes chalet

En foi de quoi, nous avons dressé le présent procès-verbal pour servir et valoir ce que le droit.

Fait à AMBOHITSARA Le jour, mois et an que dessus,

REPRESENTANT DU BENEFICIAIRE

LE PRESTATAIRE

NY TANINTSIKA/FBM

*[Signature]*

*[Signature]*  
 LE DIRECTEUR  
 Philibert  
 Haingonainy  
 BATACHARIVELO SPS ANANANARIVO

*[Signature]*

Figure 10 Technical acceptance report