



eagle
foundation

FEEDBACK
MADAGASCAR
WWW.FEEDBACKMADAGASCAR.ORG



VAKOANINA PRIMARY SCHOOL PROJECT

FF 0638

PROGRESS REPORT

18th April 2023



- a. Donor name: Fondation Eagle**
- b. Name of Charity and Project: Feedback Madagascar / Vakoanina Primary School Project**
- c. Fondation Eagle reference number: FF 0638**
- d. Date of grant accepted: 26/09/2022**
- e. Amount: GBP 29,701**
- f. Number of beneficiaries: Direct beneficiaries are 222 students (126 boys and 96 girls) and 10 teachers, as well as the local population of over 200 inhabitants in the village and 864 for the 'Fokontany' (neighbourhood).**
- g. Name and exact location of the project: Vakoanina, Ambohimisafy rural municipality, Ikongo district, Fitovinany region, Madagascar**
- h. Period of Project: October 2022 – July 2023**
- i. Conversion rate, date & amount in local currency: Conversion rate £1 = 4,678.17 MGA, 27/10/2022, Amount in local currency = 276,225,390.78 MGA**

An expenditure report will be included with the final report.



Vakoanina Primary School in its current state.

CONTEXT

This project to construct a new school building for Vakoanina Primary School targets a primary school already benefiting from FBM's school feeding programme in collaboration with Mary's Meals. This school was hit badly by Cyclone Batsirai in February 2022, meaning the King's house has since been borrowed for teaching. The project aims to increase access to education for children, to improve education standards and therefore exam results by ensuring a satisfactory schooling environment. This will help contribute to the long-term development of the area and poverty reduction. This report presents progress up to mid-April 2023.



Expected results: A total of three new furnished classrooms built, together with latrines/urinal/shower, rainwater catchment system and hand-washing unit.

Achievements to date:

No.	Activities	Timing	Results
1	Letter delivered to all stakeholders announcing the project's acceptance.	October 2022	- Stakeholders informed of the project, including details of community contributions.
2	Ordering the school furniture and wooden doors and window frames.	October 2022	- Furniture and wooden doors & window frames ordered to be ready by early 2023.
3	Meeting with local authorities at the Ambohimisafy municipality to negotiate the storeroom.	November 2022	- Storeroom identified where materials can be stored initially on arrival in Ambohimisafy before being transported on foot to Vakoanina (10 km or 2 hours walk). <div data-bbox="884 1048 1374 1700" data-label="Image"> </div> <p style="text-align: center;"><i>Storeroom</i></p>
4	Initial meeting and preparations with local community in Vakoanina concerning the project funding agreement, explanation of each stakeholder's role in the project.	29 th October 2022	- Contract signed between Ny Tanintsika and Vakoanina Primary School. - Action plan developed with the community (storeroom, local materials supply and delivery of other materials). - Construction site identified. - Builders' accommodation identified. - Designation of members of the local Committee to organisation and monitor works ("COST").



Initial meeting and training of local committee to organisation and monitor works ("COST").

No.	Activities	Timing	Results
5	Training of the COST committee to oversee work locally.	29 th October 2022	- Committee members trained and capable of fulfilling their role.
6	Contracting with the stone & gravel provider, etc.	November 2022	- Contract signed with stone provider. - 3,100 square building stones, 25m ³ of rough stones and gravel (28m ³) ready and carried to site by the community by February 2023. 
7	Contracting with the builder in charge of making the cement breezeblocks.	November 2022	- 3,400 concrete breezeblocks made before the end of February 2022 (delays due to bad weather). 



No.	Activities	Timing	Results
8	Printing of the building site banner for sign.	November 2022	- Sign erected at site to inform people of the project and funding source.
9	Procurement of project materials.	November 2022- March '23	- Suppliers identified according to procedures. - Contracts established. - Materials ordered.
10	Transporting of materials	22 nd November- December 2022, April 2023	- Materials delivered from Fianarantsoa to Ambohimisafy according to delivery plan; initially cement for breezeblocks, and also rebars, planks, beams, nails, gloves, metal doors, window protection bars and work tools.
11	Contracting with the surveillance officer/storekeeper.	November 2022	- Contract signed with surveillance officer/storekeeper. - 18 th November arrival on site.
12	Monitoring of community contributions to the project and preparatory activities.	Since November 2022	- Supplies of local materials monitored and level of achievement of community contributions. - Levelling of the land achieved in March 2023. - Collecting and delivering round wood for scaffolding by beneficiaries 80% completed as per mid-April 2023. - Action plan accelerated for local materials.
13	Transporting additional materials.	April 2023	- Contract signed with transporter. - Materials transported to Ambohimisafy
14	Signature of builders' contract	April 2023	- Contract signed with builders.



Community meeting in Vakoanina.

Challenges:

- Poor road conditions; Vakoanina is located in a highly remote area and the state of the road is particularly bad between Ifanadiana and Ambohimisafy. For this reason, deliveries were not possible in the midst of the rainy season and had to be planned for before and after the worst of the rains.
- Poor weather conditions, particularly during the rainy season from December 2022 to March 2023, including two cyclones that hit Madagascar (Cheneso and Freddy). This led to delays in the community's transport of materials from Ambohimisafy to the site, and to their transport of sand. In light of damage caused by cyclones in 2022, it was decided best to be cautious and the start of the main building work was therefore pushed back until the drier period. This also gave more time to communities to get their contributions together, particularly in light of the high level of poverty since the 2022 cyclones that impacted food security and living standards significantly.



Local community members transporting rebar from the central storeroom (next to the municipality office) in Ambohimisafy, to Vakoanina.



- Poverty levels and time constraints of the local population who were also preoccupied rebuilding the school kitchen and toilets that got destroyed in the latest 2023 cyclones. This led to delays in community contributions to the project, including collecting the sand and its delivery to the building site, particularly since it involves a 3km walk from the river to Vakoanina. Organisation of beneficiaries to transport the materials from the central storeroom in Ambohimisafy to Vakoanina is also challenging due to the distance and mountainous terrain.



Identification of an appropriate source of quality sand (left) & sand carried on foot to Vakoanina.

- Delays to the start of work were also due to a theft from the school's canteen storeroom, that led to the canteen's suspension on the 29th November 2022 until the food was replaced (as per the school feeding rules) and until more security measures were put in place. Out of prudence, the further deliveries of materials and the start of building work was also suspended until the canteen restarted in April 2023.
- The mould for aeration bricks broke and so an order was placed for a new one, meaning that the 60 aeration bricks required have not yet been completed.
- Space constraints on the school's land made it difficult to find sufficient land for the new school building, and extra levelling of the land was required.



Measuring where the new school building is to be built.



The building location after the levelling of the land was achieved.

Changes:

No changes were made to the project design, other than the timing.



Community meeting regarding the project in Vakoanina.



Conclusion

The launch of the building work was delayed more than originally planned due to the timing of the project, so as to avoid problems during the rainy season, and in light of numerous other challenges as detailed above. However, preparations are now in their final stages and the materials remaining to be delivered are cement, metal sheeting, paint, lattice and furniture. The actual building work is now planned to start before the 10th May 2023 with completion expected by the 10th July. Close monitoring and support will be provided to make sure that the project keeps on track, particularly encouragement of the local population to carry the materials from Ambohimisafy.