



eagle
foundation

FEEDBACK
MADAGASCAR
WWW.FEEDBACKMADAGASCAR.ORG



MAROMBY PRIMARY SCHOOL PROJECT

FF 0639

PROGRESS REPORT

18th April 2023



- a. Donor name: Fondation Eagle**
- b. Name of Charity and Project: Feedback Madagascar / Maromby Primary School Project**
- c. Fondation Eagle reference number: FF 0639**
- d. Date of grant accepted: 26/09/2022**
- e. Amount: GBP 29,701**
- f. Number of beneficiaries: Direct beneficiaries are 118 students (58 boys and 60 girls) and 3 teachers, as well as the local population of over 200 inhabitants in the village and 964 for the 'Fokontany' (neighbourhood).**
- g. Name and exact location of the project: Maromby, 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.



Mamy, FBM Supervisor of infrastructure projects, at a village meeting.

CONTEXT

This project to construct a new school building for Maromby Primary School targets a primary school already benefiting from FBM's school feeding programme, in collaboration with Mary's Meals. Their school building was destroyed by Cyclones Batsirai and Emnati in February 2022, meaning the church had to be 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 Maromby (around 8 km uphill or 1½ hour walk).



Materials in the storeroom in Maromby

4	Initial meeting and preparations with local community in Maromby concerning the project funding agreement,	28 th October 2022	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Contract signed between Ny Tanintsika and Maromby Primary School. - Action plan developed with the community (storeroom, local materials supply and delivery of other materials). - Construction site identified. - Builders' accommodation identified.
---	--	-------------------------------	--

No	Activities	Timing	Results
	<p>explanation of each stakeholder's role in the project.</p>		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Designation of members of the local Committee to organisation and monitor works ("COST").  <p><i>Measuring where the new school building will be located in Maromby</i></p> 
5	<p>Training of the COST committee to oversee work locally.</p>	<p>28th October 2022</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Committee members trained and capable of fulfilling their role.  <p><i>Provision of writing materials for committee members.</i></p>

No .	Activities	Timing	Results
6	Contracting with the stone & gravel provider, etc.	November 2022	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Contract signed with stone provider. - 5,100 square building stones, 25m³ of rough stones and gravel (28m³) ready and carried to site by the community by February 2023.  <p data-bbox="469 898 1125 931"><i>The head of the stone-breaking & gravel-making team.</i></p>  
7	Contracting with the builder in charge of making the cement breezeblocks.	November 2022	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - 3,400 concrete breezeblocks made before the end of February 2022 (delays due to bad weather).  



No .	Activities	Timing	Results
------	------------	--------	---------



Making the cement breezeblocks in Maromby.



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	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Suppliers identified according to procedures. - Contracts established. - Materials ordered.
10	Transporting of materials	22 nd Nov- 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.

No	Activities	Timing	Results
11	Contracting with the surveillance officer/storekeeper.	November 2022	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Contract signed with surveillance officer/storekeeper. - 18th November arrival on site.
12	Monitoring of community contributions to the project and preparatory activities.	Since November 2022	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - 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 totally completed as mid-April 2023. - Action plan accelerated for local materials. - A good level of progress with transporting materials from the central storeroom to the site.
13	Transporting additional materials.	April 2023	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Contract signed with transporter. - Materials transported to Ambohimisafy
14	Signature of builders' contract	April 2023	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Contract signed with builders.
15	Foundations ceremony with the community – the association of parents of pupils, teachers, the municipality-level education chief, the neighbourhood chief, traditional authorities and the Mayor of Ambohimisafy	14 th April 2023	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Symbolic laying-of-the-first-stones after initial blessings carried out by the traditional village elders (Kings). The building orientation was set to minimise the impact of wind and cyclones on the building. - Important messages relayed concerning the project and its intended impact. <div style="display: flex; justify-content: space-around; align-items: center;">   </div> <p style="text-align: center;"><i>The Mayor laying a stone whilst giving a blessing.</i></p>
16	Installation of builders	14 th April 2023	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Builders installed at site.
17	Start of building works.	17 th April 2023	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Building work underway.



Community meeting before the laying of the foundations ceremony.



The Mayor of Ambohimisafy

Challenges:

- Poor road conditions; Maromby 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.



A delivery being unloaded in Ambohimisafy.

- 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.
- 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 1 km walk from the river to Maromby. Organisation of beneficiaries to transport the materials from the central storeroom in Ambohimisafy to Maromby is also challenging due to the distance and mountainous terrain.



Checking the quality of sand available at source (left) & (right) sand transported to Maromby.



Community members fetching water required to make the cement breezeblocks.

- 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 6th February 2023 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 on the 5th 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.



Situation after initial levelling-of-land (above) and (below) marking-out additional levelling-of-land required.





Community members mobilised for additional work to level the land.



- Issues with the truck that was meant to transport the builders' tools and food – it will only arrive in Ambohimisafy on the 21st April! Leading to delays to the start of work.

Changes:

In addition to the change in project timing, due to the topography of the site and the need for additional levelling of the land, construction of a support wall is also required to protect the new building and school land. This will measure 40 metres and be 2.5 metres high. This will lead to a longer building time.

Conclusion

The launch of the actual building work was later than originally planned due to the timing of this project and to avoid problems during the rainy season, and in light of the numerous other challenges as detailed above. As a result, the building of the support wall will start on the 22nd April (after the arrival of the builders' tools), in parallel with the start of building the school itself. Completion of the building work is expected on the 14th July 2023. The materials remaining to be delivered are cement, metal roofing sheeting, paint, lattice, furniture, wheelbarrows, various tools and rebars. 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.



Pupils and community members before the foundations ceremony in Maromby.