



WWF

NEWSLETTER

MWIOPO

FEBRUARY

2013



Dear Friends and Colleagues,

In 2013, [WWF](#) celebrates 50 years of support for conservation in the Western Indian Ocean region, with the opportunity to reflect on the accomplishments and challenges.

In 1963, [WWF](#) made its first investments in biodiversity and conservation in Madagascar. Over the past 50 years, [WWF](#) has been a steady partner in conservation and development, and has helped foster the development of a vibrant local conservation community.



[WWF](#) has worked to promote conservation awareness and practices from national to local level, from biodiversity research to protected areas. Integrally involved in the development of [Madagascar National Parks](#) (formerly ANGAP), the National Environmental Action Plan, and the [Foundation for Protected Areas and Biodiversity in Madagascar](#), we work to foster effective local solutions to conservation management.

[WWF](#) has actively promoted natural resource management by local communities, helping them take on the rights and responsibilities for managing their forests. At the same time we've supported alternative development efforts to improve their lives and helping them protect their natural resources in a more sustainable way. Over 20 years, through the Vintsy magazine and over 700 'Club Vintsy', we have engaged hundreds of thousands of youth in environmental education and action.

Working with the [IOC](#), [IOTC](#) and other partners, we've been at the heart of generating increased recognition of the importance of conservation in the WIO Marine Ecoregion, which is a globally important center of marine endemism and biodiversity and a critical economic resource for fisheries and coastal communities.

We hope you will join us in 2013, as we aim to make it a year of recognition and celebration of environmental consciousness and conservation achievements. Not losing sight of the future and what needs to and can be done to ensure a sustainable future, in which the people of Madagascar and the Western Indian Ocean region live in harmony with nature.

Rick Hughes

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Portrait: Ndranto Razakamanarina

Q: Ndranto Razakamanarina, what was your role at WWF?

Ndranto Razakamanarina: As Policy Officer I was a member of the Senior Management Team. I gave policy support to WWF's Conservation Programme. I accompanied WWF's strategic approaches through lobbying with decision makers. My short career at WWF (February 2010-September 2012) helped me to understand the values, strengths and weaknesses and working methods of the largest international conservation NGO.

Q: What were your main tasks at WWF?

Ndranto Razakamanarina: I wrote a weekly report about the socio-political context in our country, developed a policy work plan for WWF, and worked on cleaning up the wood traffic and building the China-Africa Programme. I politically accompanied programs on sustainable energy, extractive industries, sustainable biofuel, on **REDD +**, fuel wood and communications.

Q: What will be the big environmental challenges in the next years?

Ndranto Razakamanarina: The political crisis has fostered anarchy and complacency towards law enforcement. We must restore and enhance environmental governance, help decision makers to make decentralized communities (COBA, CTD and STD) accountable and to continue to advocate development programs to reach these grassroots communities. Finally, we have to communicate our success stories better in order to facilitate the scaling up and sustainability of our actions.



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Ndranto Razakamanarina

- Studied at ESSA-Forêts;
- Head of the Environment programme, Head of Development at PCDI in Andasibe - Mantadia, Technical Director, SAF/FJKM;
- Forestry Specialist, USAID;
- Senior Advisor, Environment and international mobilisation, Presidency;
- Policy Officer, WWF MWIOPO



Large mangrove reforestation in the Menabe

WWF, in partnership with the Public Organization for Intermunicipal Cooperation and the Menabe Region launched a large [mangrove reforestation project](#) in eight villages around Belo sur Tsiribihina. Each village dedicated an average surface of 21 ha for this reforestation, with a total of 273,000 *Rhizophoracées* propagules planted.

WWF is preparing for this large annual mangrove reforestation campaign that was held since 2010. Halfway between sea and land, mangroves form an ecosystem that is particularly rich in biodiversity and enables to ensure the economic survival of local populations who depend on fishing.



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Energy Diagnosis

WWF, [Jirama](#) and the Ministry of Mines jointly published the results of a research into the energy sector in Madagascar, in November 2011. According to this analysis, the energy supply in Madagascar is dominated by fuel wood (92%) and oil products (7%).

The share of renewable energy is still marginal with less than 1%. In Madagascar, hydroelectric power is the most exploited renewable energy source. Hydroelectric plants provided 54% of the country's electrical energy in 2011.

Thus the current energy sector does not yet allow a widespread and low cost access to electricity and does not contribute effectively to the socio-economic development of the country. Its footprint is still harmful to the environment (fuel wood, oil).



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Energy Month at the IFM

With its Fuel Wood Project, [WWF](#) took part in the celebration of the month dedicated to Energy Science at the [French Institute of Madagascar](#), under the theme «*Madagascar, towards an energy transition*».

Through its presence, [WWF](#) underlined the importance of mobilizing for fuel wood gained through reforestation, which is the main source of energy in Madagascar but also on the importance of green energy.



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Barefoot College

Seven grandmothers from Iavomanitra and Tsaratanana in southeastern Madagascar will take part in the training on solar engineering provided by [Barefoot College](#).

This programme is destined for elderly women from remote villages with no access to electricity, aged at least 40 years, with little or no education. Under the supervision of the Indian government, they will be trained in the installation, maintenance and repair of solar panels during six months.

The training will be held in India. Upon their return home, these elderly women will introduce this new technology within their communities.



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Drinking water in Beheloka

In October 2012, the rural municipality of Beheloka in Southern Madagascar inaugurated a water desalination unit which works with solar energy. It is an innovation for this arid region where drinking water is scarce.

The Beheloka population daily fetches water from a distance of ten kilometers from their villages, and had to pay 700 Ar for a 20 liter container of brackish, salted and undrinkable water.

This water supply project results from the partnership of the Beheloka Municipality, [WWF Switzerland](#) and Madagascar, and the Swiss [Solarpar](#) association as well as the [Association for the Development of Solar Energy \(ADES\)](#).

This unit pumps the brackish water, treats and purifies it to produce drinking water which can vary from 350 to 5,000 liters a day, depending on the season. This desalination unit will serve the 2,200 inhabitants of Beheloka, at a rate of 20 liters of water every two days per person. The rural village of Beheloka, owner of the desalination unit has entrusted the management of the water infrastructure and service to the community association «*Vezo Mitsinjo ny Ho Avy*».

«It is important that these communities live in decent living conditions. Access to drinking water is vital to their health and well-being. This fits WWF's mission which is to preserve the environment while considering the human well-being», says Voahirana Randriambola, Coordinator of WWF Madagascar and Western Indian Ocean's Footprint Programme.



500,000 Lumitsits for efficient lighting

This year, [WWF](#), [Jirama](#), the Ministry of Energy and the [Telma Foundation](#) prepare to distribute 500,000 «Lumitsits» lamps, or energy saving light bulbs, in the cities of Antsiranana, Nosy Be Hell-Ville, Antsirabe, Toliara, Mahajanga, Toamasina and Antananarivo.

This project tested a pilot operation in Ambositra: «This first test in Ambositra allowed a reduction of 7 to 10% on households' electricity bills», says Samuel Ratsimisetra, Technical Expert for the Lumitsits project within WWF.

The use of Lumitsits will also allow to reduce our CO₂ emissions that come from the fuel consumption for electricity production to less than 69,000 tons over 9 years.

Vintsy, back in your libraries

The eco-educational Vintsy magazine is back in our libraries and schools, after a few months. With its 15,000 copies, the magazine - which will celebrate its 22nd anniversary this year-, is the largest publication dedicated to the youth on the topic of environment in Madagascar.

It is also the only magazine capable of covering the entire territory of Madagascar, reaching young readers, some of them members of the 700 clubs Vintsy which were created under the impulse of the magazine.



New Projects

MG200400- “Protecting Mangroves in Madagascar”

Start date: September 2012 - Planned end date: August 2013

Donor: [The Leona M. and Harry B. Helmsley Charitable Trust](#)

Summary:

The Project aims at providing a successful demonstration of positive conservation impact on livelihoods by 2015, that will serve as a concrete model for scaling up community-based mangrove management throughout the Tsiribihina-Manambolo seascape. This goal will be achieved through reinforcing the implementation of community-based mangrove management, enhancing livelihoods through the improvement of the current crab chain-of-custody, and laying the groundwork for potential future blue carbon opportunities.

MG200500- “Best Options for Rural and Access to Light and Electricity - BOREALE”

Start date: Mars 2012 - Planned end date: February 2016

Donor: [European Union](#)

Summary:

In partnership with [Fondation Énergies pour le Monde](#), the project targets the decentralized rural electrification (DRE) by wind and solar energy of 8 municipalities in the Androy and Anosy regions and to provide the Malagasy authorities a program of rural electrification by renewable energies for 6 regions of northern Madagascar: Sava, Sofia, Betsiboka Alaotra-Mangoro, Atsinanana, Analanjirofo.

MG200700- “Accès EAU : Recherche Accès en Eau pour une approche intégrée entre bien-être social et écologique sur le Plateau Mahafaly”

Start date: December 2012 - Planned end date: November 2016

Donor: [International Development Research Centre \(IDRC\)](#)

Summary:

The project’s main objective is to identify and test options to improve, in the context of a high level climate stress, sustainable access to water resources for populations of the Mahafaly Plateau in the south-west of Madagascar.

Community-based mangroves restoration and reforestation in the Tsiribihina and Manambolo Seascape

Start date: December 2012

Planned end date: June 2013

Donor: [WWF-France](#)

Summary:

This project aims to conduct a functional restoration action of mangroves in the Tsiribihina and Manambolo Seascape in order to contribute to the maintenance of the ecological goods and services provided by mangroves which guarantees the improvement of living conditions of local communities.



New Opportunities

Conserving marine biodiversity in the Western Indian Ocean

Donor: [Mava Foundation](#)

Duration : 3 years

Status : Concept submitted to donor

Summary:

In partnership with WWF-Eastern and Southern African Regional Programme Office (WWF-ESARPO), WWF-Mozambique Country Office (WWF-MCO), WWF-Tanzania Country Office (WWF-TCO), WWF-Coastal East Africa Global Initiative (CEA-GI), WWF-France and different organizations in the Indian Ocean region, this project aims to initiate an Environmental Ocean Governance Agenda for the Northern Mozambique Channel to conserve its exceptional biodiversity, in harmony with sustainable development, leading to World Heritage Site status.

Stemming environmental crime in Madagascar

Donor: Wildcat Foundation

Duration : 2 years

Status : Concept submitted to donor and accepted

Summary:

This project is a next step WWF Madagascar and Western Indian Ocean Programme undertake in expanding modernized law enforcement and surveillance of protected areas in the Mandrare River Basin and beyond. It aims to take significant steps toward ensuring more effective law enforcement, enhanced protected area management capacity and the expanded application of aerial surveillance technology to counteract the lack of affordable, trained human resources available to protect the immense diversity of flore and fauna in Madagascar's Mandrare River Basin.

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50

50 years of conservation in Madagascar

10

10 priority landscapes in Madagascar and the Western Indian Ocean Region

200

200 staff to support the projects locally, nationally and regionally

44

44 projects in Madagascar and the Western Indian Ocean

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	<p>Why we are here To stop the degradation of the planet's natural environment and to build a future in which humans live in harmony with nature</p> <hr/> <p>www.wwf.mg</p>
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