

Project Update: August 2013

We have now a collaborative relationship with Governmental and non-governmental organisation related to conservation and tours operators working in ecotourism. They are looking forward of the progress of this project.

As the Mayor of Bobaomby area suggested, the project sites is now focusing in the village of Anpombofofo and Anjiabe which are villages in a same commune and biodiversity richness are concentrated..

With the suggestion of the Forest Ministry "*Direction Regional des Eaux et Forets*" (DREF), we created an association of researcher named RAGADS (Research Assistant Groups Antsiranana Diego Suarez) to facilitate our trip to the study sites in term of security and administration.

Professor Andrew Walsh from the Department of Anthropology, University of Western Ontario, Canada was visiting Madagascar and we invited him to come with us to find if it would be possible for Canadian students to do their field work study in our sites next year.

We have done a socio-economic survey (talking with household, chief of the village and elder) to help us to build a good relationship with the villagers and to help villagers to understand the goal of the project. Biological study with the supervision of Loui-Phillip D'Arvisenet (Madagascar National Park guide and biological research specialist) was enable us to record species of fauna such as: Madagascar Green Pigeon (*Treron australis*), Madagascar Bulbul (*Hypsipetes madagascariensis*), Madagascar Magpie-robin (*Copsychus albospectularis*), Madagascar Paradise Flycatcher (*Terpsiphone mutata*), Madagascar Fody (*Foudia madagascariensis*), *Blaesodactylus boivini*, *Leioheterodon madagascariensis*, *Dromicodrya quadrilineatus*, *Ithyocyphus miniatus*, *Phelsuma madagascariensis grandis*. Crowned lemurs (*Elemur coronatus*).

The main species of mangrove trees are: *Avicennia marina*, *Rhizophora mucronata*, *Sonneratia Alba*, *Bruguiera gymnoriza*, *Ceriops tagal*. The study site have the most famous Baobab which is endemic to Madagascar: *Adansonia Madagascariensis*.

