## **Project Update: May 2016**

I am pleased to inform you that the project is progressing and continuing to be recognised. The project has a positive impact not only to the local community of Bobaomby but also to the project participants.

The project is willing to seek opportunity for its development and success so that one of the project participant has applied to the Mandela Washington Fellowship for YALI program (Young African Leader Initiative) and thanks to the importance and the advantages that the project can bring to the local community of Bobaomby and the young Malagasy in Antsiranana, the application has been approved. His name is Elyse Nomenjanahary and he has been participated to this project as a co-coordinator since the first phase of the project. He is the only one candidate from the north who has been selected to participate in this fellowship. Elyse Nomenjanahary will travel to the United States in Portland, Oregon, a place that is famous for tourism, outdoors activities, culture and food which will be a good asset for the project as it is related to the project subject. He will also follow an intensive academic coursework and leadership training in Portland State University (PSU) for 6 weeks. The training will focus on civic leadership which aims to build technical and leadership capacity in areas such as citizenship, community building, economic development, grassroots activism, community based organisations, political organising and leadership, and volunteerism, organisational management, strategic planning, fundraising, community relations and outreach, advocacy, monitoring and evaluation, media, and coalition building.

This selection would not have been possible without the support of the Rufford Small Grant Foundation to the project. This project will be part of the YALI fellow networking programme so that the Rufford Small Grant Foundation will be mentioned as it is the main funder organisation.

