

Project Update: May 2017

Our activities were focused in Mahajanga and Ankarafantsika National Park: the public awareness, ethnomycological study, and fungi survey. We have visited the Philibert Tsiranana Lyceum, Mahajanga and the secondary school of Andranofasika, near the Ankarafantsika National Park. The celebration of the World Wetland Day, 2nd February 2017, was a great opportunity for us to sensitise and inform the pupils to the biodiversity richness, values and its conservation of their region such as wetland area and Fungi species. Fortunately, in January 2017, Madagascar has designated five large sites as wetlands of international importance. One of these Ramsar sites is the Ankarafantsika wetlands.

The fungi survey was undertaken in dry deciduous forest of Ankarafantsika, while we have noticed its fungi richness during the rainy season. The environment students of IFT were always involved in these activities.

Our field study in February and March 2017 coincided with the passage of Cyclone Enawo in Madagascar.



Left: *Geastrum* sp. Right: The Ankarafantsika wetlands, newly designated Ramsar sites, recognized as sites of high international importance.



Left: It was a great opportunity to the pupils to be aware of the biodiversity richness and values of their region. Right: The biodiversity conservation need their participation. The pupils with our project posters.