Project Update: December 2021

1. The fieldwork went well. We collected data in both forest cores and edges in four different sites in Ranomafana, and very are really interesting. Additionally, camera traps have provided detailed behavioral observations of the mouse lemurs.

2. However, the use of fluorescent powder did not work well under the rainy weather of Ranomafana. After 1 month of trials and readjustments in the fieldwork methods, we decided to stop it because it was inconclusive.

3. Therefore, we only conducted fieldwork for 2.5 months instead of the 4 months previously planned.

4. Since October 2021, we have been entering data and proceeding to some preliminary data analysis. I am currently working on finding new methods and techniques to measure the seed dispersal distance and locate seed deposition sites. I will incorporate any new methods and/or protocol to the next fieldwork, starting in January.

5. Regarding the budget, I still have 11,955,625 MGA (~£2000) left, and I was thinking of maximising data collection in the same four sites, but under a different season, starting in January 2022. Therefore, I will not have data on seed dispersal distance and deposition sites, but I will have data on the services provided by males and females in both forest cores and edges in four different sites during rainy and dry seasons. I believe such data could provide more insights into the seed dispersal patterns of mouse lemurs across a heterogeneous forest landscape and could help their conservation.