

INVESTMENT OPPORTUNITY



The Anglican Relief and Development Fund®



MADAGASCAR: NEW SCHOOL GIVES YOUNG PEOPLE HELP AND HOPE

Projects helps country renew its attention on the importance of educating the next generation



The Anglican Diocese of Fianarantsoa will use the experience it gained in building St. Mark school, above, when it builds a new primary school.

PROJECT OVERVIEW

CONTEXT: Madagascar, an island country located in the Indian Ocean off the coast of Southern Africa, is the fifth-largest island in the world. Some 25.6 million people make their home on the island's 224,533 square miles. Despite having considerable natural resources, Madagascar has some of the highest poverty rates in the world. It is also among the least developed countries. Development prospects in Madagascar continue to be hampered by the country's low growth potential and exposure to frequent, deep, and persistent crises.

NEED: Millions of children in Madagascar do not attend school, with attendance lowest among children younger than 14. Access to quality education collapsed after a 2009 political crisis that affected the country. Enrollment in primary education has declined drastically due to a lack of investment, deteriorating quality of education, and the demoralization of parents and teachers. Many have given up on education. More than 1.7 million children ages 6 to 14 are not attending school across the country.

SOLUTION: To help improve educational opportunities, the Anglican Diocese of Fianarantsoa will construct the first phase of a primary school for 256 students ages 6 to 14 who live in Tanetibe and Ambositra, Fianarantsoa. It's expected that 7,500 people will indirectly benefit from this project, based on 1,250 households in the area, each with six family members. Students will benefit from access to improved education, and the community will experience social and economic benefits. Priority will be given to marginalized and vulnerable children. They will be nurtured to reach their full potential in an environment where Christian faith and cultural integration are realized.

LIFE IMPACT

Benefits 450 people, some in multiple ways:

- 256 children, ages 6 to 14, will enroll in the new school and receive a quality education and experience spiritual growth
- 194 parents and caregivers will be sensitized on the importance of supporting education and biblical studies when church leaders reach out to them

PROJECT PROFILE

ID: ARDF-0622-Fianarantsoa

Lead Ministry

ANGLICAN DIOCESE OF FIANARANTSOA



LIVES IMPACTED 450

SECTOR EDUCATION

AMOUNT REQUESTED \$109,200

ARDF COST PER BENEFICIARY \$242.67

IN THEIR OWN WORDS

"I have three children in the school: Leba, Jessica, and Mathieu. I am proud of our school, St. Mark, compared to public schools around the diocese. Our school provides [a] quality education and Bible studies, which help in improving the values of our children. Thank you to the diocese for this development."

– Justin Andrianavalona, father of three children who attend St. Mark school, Fianarantsoa, Madagascar



WHAT IT'S LIKE NOW



“On March 4, UNESCO Madagascar presented the

results of the study ‘Analysis of Out-of-School Children Data and the Impact of the COVID-19 Pandemic in Madagascar,’ conducted within the framework of the Global Out-of-School Children Initiative, for the UNESCO Institute for Statistics. Preschool (under 5 years old): 40% representing between 285,000 and 316,000 children, Primary: 22% to 27% representing between 751,000 and 921,000 children, Lower secondary: 30% to 40% representing between 741,000 and 1 million children, Upper secondary: more than 60%, or nearly 1.4 million adolescents.”

— School exclusion in Madagascar during COVID-19. April 13, 2021, reliefweb.int/report/madagascar/school-exclusion-madagascar-during-covid-19

“Madagascar is a mostly unregulated economy with many untapped natural resources, but no capital markets, a weak judicial system, poorly enforced contracts, and rampant government corruption. The country faces challenges to improve education, healthcare, and the environment to boost long-term economic growth. Agriculture, including fishing and forestry, is a mainstay of the economy, accounting for more than one-fourth of GDP and employing roughly 80% of the population.”

— Madagascar - Economic Indicators, Moody Analytics, www.economy.com/madagascar/indicators

PROJECT DESIGN

This project marks the first phase of construction of a primary school for students ages 6 to 14. This phase will include a block of eight classrooms and an administration office. An architect, preferably from the diocese, will be contracted to design the building and submit it to the local government planning department for approval. The diocese will involve local vendors in Ambositra who will bid to supply construction materials and supplies. The diocese will use various local craftsmen to build the school, as well as volunteers from the community – a move that will help instill ownership in the school. Fianarantsoa municipal officers will regularly inspect the construction efforts to help ensure they meet local standards. The diocesan development committee will include a qualified engineer who will oversee construction, which is expected to take nine months. Upon completion, the building will be inspected by officials who will issue an occupancy certificate.

When completed, the diocese anticipates that at least 256 students from kindergarten to 7th grade will enroll in the school. A nominal registration fee will be charged to students as part of admission. Diocesan education department will ensure that the government of Madagascar provides teachers for the new school. Admission will be on a first-come, first-served basis and open all children in the communities of Tanetibe and Ambositra. This new school will enable Diocese of Fianarantsoa to minister to 194 parents and caregivers who will be sensitized to support the education of the children. The new space will be used for community meetings, evangelism, and Bible study – all practices that promote discipleship among people who want to engage and know Christ.

Measuring impact. Analysis of the project will be carried out to identify the gaps and indicators that measure the results of this intervention project. Project leaders will regularly monitor progress, submitting quarterly reports to the project committee. Diocesan staff overseeing this project will compile quarterly progress and expense reports. Staff in the Diocese of Fianarantsoa development office will meet quarterly to evaluate project impact.

Track record. Since its founding in 2003, the Anglican Diocese of Fianarantsoa has started eight schools, including a preschool, primary, secondary, and high school. The most recent construction of St. Marks school included three classroom blocks, four toilets, and school offices that greatly improved the quality of the learning environment.

PROJECT BUDGET

ITEM	SOURCES OF FUNDS	
	REQUESTED FROM ARDF	LOCAL FUNDS
Walls ¹	\$36,382	
Land for the school ²		\$20,000
Metal work and beams	\$12,701	
Roofing and ceilings ³	\$12,351	
Research and evaluation	\$9,100	
ARDF administration cost	\$9,100	
Toilets and water tanks	\$6,956	
Windows and doors	\$5,255	
Painting	\$5,211	
Slab and foundation setting	\$5,018	
Desks and chairs	\$4,000	\$2,000
Site clearing and excavation	\$3,126	
TOTAL	\$109,200	\$22,000

HOW YOU CAN CONTRIBUTE

For \$512, you can cover construction costs for one student.

For \$5,125, you can cover construction costs for 10 students.

For \$51,250, you can cover construction costs for 100 students.

NOTES

¹ includes bricks, cement, and ballast

² Diocese of Fianarantsoa will purchase the land for the school

³ includes the ring beam and roof over the classrooms

IMPLEMENTER FINANCIALS*

This project adheres to some or all of this sector's established best practices

	2019	%	2020	%	2021	%
INCOME						
Local Donations	\$23,390	66	\$23,390	68	\$23,485	64
Income from investments	\$5,705	16	\$1,200	3	\$2,500	7
Overseas donations	\$5,908	17	\$9,700	28	\$10,331	28
Interest Income	\$326	1	\$345	1	\$450	1
TOTAL	\$35,329		\$34,635		\$36,766	
EXPENDITURES						
Personnel (Salaries & Benefits)	\$8,575	27	\$8,575	26	\$9,400	27
Church Programs	\$12,015	38	\$13,063	39	\$13,121	37
Administrative Expenses	\$11,025	35	\$11,452	35	\$12,400	36
TOTAL	\$31,615		\$33,090		\$34,921	
SURPLUS / (DEFICIT)	\$3,714		\$1,545		\$1,845	

NOTES:

*Income and expenditures reported in U.S. dollars

INCOME: The financial statements of the Diocese of Fianarantsoa were presented to the bishop and accountant who certified that the results of the accounts are true and acceptable. The diocese operates a designated fund system in which most of the income is specifically assigned to specific expenses and almost all income is spent during the year. Total income has grown marginally, as have expenses. Local donations comprise the major source of income, contributing an average of 66 percent of total income.

The diocese's income grew marginally in 2019, 2020, and 2021.

Overall the Diocese maintained a surplus cash flow, an indication of its ability to meet its financial obligations.

EXPENSES: Total expenses rose marginally over the past three years. Program expenses average 38 percent of expenses, while salaries average 27 percent of all expenditures. Administration expenses averaged 35% and included travel and transportation.

RISK ANALYSIS



Low: 1, Low/Medium: 2, Medium: 3, Medium/High: 4, High: 5 

CONCEPT: 1

This new school will provide students with a suitable and timely place to learn and study. Providing a quality education in a country devastated by frequent instability is a vital intervention. Given that more than 1.7 million children, ages 6 to 14, aren't getting an education, this project helps address Madagascar's national problem of insufficient educational facilities. It demonstrates the Diocese of Fianarantsoa's commitment to education.

PROGRAM DESIGN & EXPERIENCE: 1

Program design is based on the diocese's previous experience, having started eight schools. The diocese has demonstrated it has the experience to successfully manage and implement this project. The impact of the St. Mark project has instilled confidence in the diocese.

LEADERSHIP: 1

The community strongly supports community development and is active in seeing projects succeed. Diocesan leaders have a good working relationship with community leaders.

FINANCIAL CONTROL: 2

Diocese of Fianarantsoa has an annual external audit and a list of fixed assets of substantial value. The diocese has stable management and secure financial transfer methods. It lacks an independent board because all members belong to the Anglican Church.

SUSTAINABILITY: 2

The diocese has a strong track record of establishing self-sustaining programs. In this project, the diocese will purchase land while the parishioners provide labor during construction. The government of Madagascar has also promised to provide teachers once the school is complete.

EXTERNAL: 2

Madagascar is prone to periodic cyclones or storms, which pose external challenges for construction projects. The global economic crisis is another key challenge that might impact the prices of building materials. Another challenge is COVID-19 which, if not controlled, could affect the project.

LEADERSHIP PROFILES

The Rt. Rev. Dr. Gilbert Ratelosen Rakotondravelo has served as bishop of the Diocese of Fianarantsoa since 2003. His background includes:

- more than 19 years in ministry and working with church development projects
- received a Master of Arts in Education from Roman Catholic Theological Institute, Antananarivo, Madagascar, and a Master of Art in Education from Malagasy Institute Public administration, Ministry of Malagasy Education, Antananarivo
- received a diploma in leadership training from the Haggai Institute, Maui, Hawaii
- received a Doctorate in Ministry from Agriculture, Crafts, Trades, and Studies Institute of higher learning, Bangalore, India

Philippe Rakotondramasy is the administrator for the Diocese of Fianarantsoa. His background includes:

- a diploma in management from University of Antananarivo
- served 20 years as manager of the Madagascar railway, Antananarivo

The Rev. Venisimon Zazamainty is the chaplain of the diocesan education department, Diocese of Fianarantsoa. His background includes:

- a Bachelor of Theology from Theological College Superior of the Reformed Church, Fianarantsoa
- served six years as a priest, St. Mark Cathedral Church, Fianarantsoa

REFERENCES

“I have known the leadership and people of the Diocese of Fianarantsoa for years. The leadership of the diocese under Bishop Dr. Gilbert Ratelosen Rakotondravelo has overseen the growth and development of the diocese. The growth has been realized largely through the integrity and dedication of the leadership and a high level of team spirit. Rt. Rev. Dr. Gilbert Ratelosen Rakotondravelo is a visionary and enjoys considerable respect and confidence of the people. I attest to his considerable commitment to transparency and accountability, and all donors should feel assured of due diligence and optimal achievements with resources provided to this diocese.”

– Felana Zafindavanarivelo Njarimandimby, an educator and advocate for girls education in the Diocese of Fianarantsoa

RESEARCHER’S STATEMENT

In an increasingly knowledge-based world economy, the prosperity of each country depends on the education of its citizens. With literacy rates among the lowest in the world, Madagascar has a great need for good schools. Given the needs, experience, and existing infrastructures of the Anglican Church of Madagascar, the project is well-designed with sustainability in focus. Getting children into school and providing them with a quality education can help build a better future for the students and their country. Leadership has demonstrated great ability to manage various projects and create needed impact in the community. I recommend this project for funding to achieve success for hundreds of children and their families. I am confident the diocese will draw key lessons from its experience. Coupled with community visibility and support, this will be a sustainable intervention.

– Godfrey Ayena, Sr. Research Analyst, June 2022

IMPLEMENTER’S INSPIRATION

“Happy is the man who finds wisdom, and the man who gets understanding.”

Proverbs 3:13 (MEV)

HOW TO FUND THIS PROJECT

PROJECT RECAP

ID - ARDF-0622- Fianarantsoa
Timeline - 12 months
Requested - \$109,200
Modified - 090222

For information about the Fund or Projects, write to:
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