



Education For Madagascar

Tenth anniversary 2015-2025

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Education For Madagascar in figures

4 countries

5 sites

10 years

11 SDGs

12 dedicated mentors

15 projects currently underway

16 graduated now employed

22 permanent staff members

36 committed local volunteers

124 local & international members

247 women and mothers supported

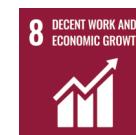
932 children and teenagers empowered

1179 beneficiaries from disadvantaged families

1360 organic hot meals provided every month

3510 trees planted and sustainably monitored

100.000m² of climate-resilient mangroves restored



Pursuing Excellence: Quality Auditing and Training With Mathilde Benramdane

On August 19, 2025, Education For Madagascar experienced a decisive day. The audit, conducted in accordance with the spirit of ISO 19011, provided a clear view of the organization's actual operations. Very quickly, the team demonstrated its strengths: strong leadership, transparent communication, and a solid ethical foundation. Yet, behind this energy, twelve key insights emerged: Notable successes, a few compliance adjustments, two areas of vulnerability, and opportunities for further improvement. Challenges to address, certainly, but also a path forward. From this exploration arose a tailor-made training program, designed to guide the team toward greater mastery, coherence, performance, and transparency.

To meet our requirements for traceability and quality, we gradually developed bespoke applications internally, designed specifically for our needs. These tools allow us to avoid duplicating information, secure it, and share it whenever necessary.



To date, nearly 30 applications have been implemented, covering most administrative and educational needs: Management of attendance, beneficiaries, members, communication history, payroll records, inventories, student evaluations, the library, entity accounting, the health center, activity reports, lesson plans, and more.

This “paperless office” approach is clearly more efficient in multiple ways: It eliminates paperwork, allows everyone to enter or consult the information they need, and offers flexible access from a computer, tablet, or phone.

The needs are vast, but a modular and pragmatic approach has allowed us to address them gradually. The time saved through these solutions is fully leveraged to identify the next areas for automation.



PAPERLESS INITIATIVE



Objective 1
Promote exemplary governance by fostering strong leadership, transparent communication, and ethics.

Objective 2
Master key analysis and management tools to structure problem-solving and support continuous improvement.

Is the Montessori model genuinely compatible with the Malagasy context? Perspectives from the third year of implementation at Akka Montessori Madagascar.

Considering the high costs, establishing such a school in a country grappling with economic challenges and instability naturally raises questions. Nevertheless, relying on their professional and personal experiences, the founders, Patricia Peterson Fontenay and Jackie Sutter Randriantsoa, decided to invest substantial resources to showcase the tangible impact of this project in a vulnerable community.



The result: In September 2025, we celebrate the third school year of the Children's House, with undeniable benefits for both children and families. And this is only the beginning. We are committed to continuing our progress, investing further, and planning an elementary school to build on this promising momentum.

Montessori pedagogy places the child at the center of their learning journey, helping them develop autonomy, concentration, and a sense of responsibility within a calm and structured environment. This method respects each child's individual pace and encourages cooperation rather than competition.

Maria Montessori—physician, neurologist, psychiatrist, anthropologist, and feminist, among other roles—opened her first Casa dei Bambini (Children's House) in Rome in 1907, in the working-class district of San Lorenzo. She applied a scientific approach to a vulnerable population, including children with disabilities, in this underprivileged area of Rome.

Peace education is one of the fundamental principles of Maria Montessori's pedagogy



Grace and Courtesy guide students to first recognize their emotions, then engage in dialogue to resolve conflicts, and ultimately cultivate behaviors rooted in respect for others and the environment.

In a country facing significant social, economic, and environmental challenges, these skills are essential for fostering community cohesion and promoting peaceful coexistence. The demand for quality education, in line with **UN Sustainable Development Goal #4**, is put into practice here through a clear framework and well-defined



guidelines that ensure its effectiveness.

The children we welcome on the Ambohibe Antananarivo campus come from the most disadvantaged neighbourhoods in Madagascar.

The challenge is therefore real.

Akka Montessori Madagascar is already showing very promising results: Calmer and more serene students, motivated and engaged in collective life, with notable academic progress in both Malagasy and French. The Children's House is undeniably a place of growth, tailored to the Malagasy context while preserving the Montessori spirit. We aspire to replicate this model on a larger scale wherever possible. Malagasy children, even the most vulnerable, also deserve excellence. We warmly invite you to visit and see our work firsthand to fully appreciate the tangible impact of our actions.

Building self-esteem from early childhood seems relevant. Adolescence is another challenge to prepare for.

Many thanks to Hasina Rajaonarivelo and her two assistants, Alida and Anjara.

SDG4: Quality education

Developing trainer expertise:

Two educators undergoing training in

Securing a Schengen visa to study in France is a major challenge for Malagasy students. We began the process in January 2025, encountered several refusals from the French consulate, and finally obtained the hard-won visa on our third attempt.

This enrolment is crucial for our future educators and school director for several reasons.

The AMI* training is distinguished by its rigorous adherence to Montessori pedagogy, highly qualified instructors, comprehensive mastery of the materials, professional child observation, and international recognition.

The Montessori Guide 6–12 years diploma, recognized by the French state, is offered at very few centers worldwide. The French-language version of the diploma is only available in France. For our school to one day be affiliated with the Association Montessori Internationale, this training is essential to meet the required standards and ensure the necessary quality benchmarks.

Teaching Malagasy, English and French, the official language of Madagascar, is also a key part of our curriculum. We also aim to join the AEFE** network.

(*) Association Montessori Internationale

(**) Agency for French Education Abroad



ISMM: Maria Montessori Higher Institute
Andry Andriamora and Tsiori Rakotoarivojaona
With the Class of 2026 and Hadrien Roche



SDG17: Partnership for the goals

A bridge between Switzerland and Madagascar.

School Partnership: Happy Kids Montessori Geneva. With Ludivine Hamy



It all began with a simple video call. Despite the distance, Ludivine Hamy and Jackie Sutter shared the same dream: bringing their students closer together through the Montessori spirit.

The project gained momentum after the meeting between Sophie Blommé, President of Education For Madagascar in Switzerland, and Ludivine Hamy, founder of Montessori Happy Kids in Geneva. A new friendship was formed, giving life to a shared initiative.

To lay the first stones of this symbolic bridge, Andry Andriamora, Montessori assistant at AKKA (Akanin'ny Kilonga) in Madagascar, was welcomed in Switzerland. While completing his Montessori 6–12 years educator training at ISMM Montpellier, he undertakes an observation internship at Montessori Happy Kids.

Soon, the children themselves will be at the heart of this exchange. Through this dialogue, students will discover the richness of each other's world and learn that curiosity knows no borders. Step by step, a bridge of friendship and understanding—built on shared dreams—is taking shape. And this is only the beginning.



SDG17: Partnership for the goals

With Ecole Montessori Internationale de Nice

Managed by Nadia Hamidi



The École Montessori Internationale de Nice is a vibrant school that welcomes more than a hundred students from all around the world. Although our collaboration is still just beginning, it already promises wonderful opportunities for both of our organizations.

Everything started in 2023, when Patricia Peterson Fontenay and Hasina Rajaonarivelo—co-founder and guide at Akka Montessori Madagascar, as well as Honorary President and President of AMMA, the Montessori Association of Madagascar—visited the school in Nice. That first meeting opened the door to a very meaningful exchange: welcoming Tsiori Rakotoarijaona, an ISMM trainee, as the school's very first intern.

Tsiori completed an observation internship in November and will return for a practical internship next March, guided and mentored by Nadia Hamidi, who is both internship supervisor and a leader in school management.

But the partnership doesn't stop there. École Montessori Internationale de Nice is eager to make this relationship grow even further—with student exchanges, solidarity projects, creative collaborations, and fundraising initiatives in support of Education For Madagascar.

Nadia is also President of AMF, the Montessori Association of France, a inspiring organization.

Our membership in AMF helps us work hand in hand to grow the Montessori movement we are dedicated to developing in Madagascar.

We are delighted and so grateful to be supported and guided through this collaboration.



SDG13: Climate Action

A school in the desert has obtained the green school award

With Michou Andriamalala, Harilala Randrianirina, Sarobidy Leon and Carmen Dege

In Mandromondromotra, near Fort Dauphin in the Anosy Region, Education For Madagascar, in collaboration with the Parent-Teacher Association, educational authorities, and local leaders, has integrated environmental education into the school curriculum. Over 300 adolescents enrolled at the middle school are actively participating in environmental protection initiatives.

A 1,500 m² sandy wasteland has been transformed into a permaculture garden, abundant with vegetables and fruit. Students are learning to reduce waste, resulting in a 30% decrease in schoolyard refuse through waste sorting and composting. Community activities engage approximately 150 residents in clean-up and reforestation days, during which 400 young trees have been planted over the year—one tree per child (145 at the middle school and 255 in Agnalafaly, a neighbouring village).

In recognition of these achievements, the school was designated a Green School for the Anosy region by the Ministry of Education. This program has been made possible through the generous support of the U.S. Embassy, to which we express our sincere gratitude.



SDG4: Quality Education

Academic Achievement,

Mandromondromotra, a School in Transformation



American Corner
TAOLAGNARO

Sarobidy Leon Ramanantsiarovana

Michou Andriamalala

Carmen Sofia Dege



The Facts: The success rate for the BEPC (Brevet d'Études du Premier Cycle) examinations saw a significant increase, rising from 45% in 2024 to 82% in 2025.

Analysis: After ten months of implementing a new program in environmental education, as well as academic and language support, the 2025 BEPC results at CEG Mandromondromotra clearly demonstrate the impact of this project. The involvement from Education For Madagascar team, along with the introduction of a more “hands-on” curriculum, has transformed the school’s dynamics and the students’ motivation. Collective efforts—by students, teachers, parents and school leadership—have led to a remarkable improvement, with performance nearly doubling in just one year.

SDG17: Partnership for the goals with VISEO Group, pioneer in electric mobility in Madagascar and Zara Sandra Jinah



The birth of a strong partnership always begins with a profoundly human encounter.

That is exactly what we felt from our very first exchanges with Zara Sandra Jinah. Behind her youth lies a Marketing and Communications manager for VISEO Madagascar with remarkable maturity, guided by a genuine sensitivity that immediately touched us. Committed and attentive, she channels her energy into several inclusive initiatives of which she is a patron: CSM – Centre Sembana Mijoro, as well as SESAME, an educational organization that holds a special place in our hearts. Zara is our new mentor for EDF École Des Femmes.

Beyond the individual, the company she represents embodies a vision decisively focused on the future. In a context where power outages remain frequent across the island, VISEO stands out as one of the first companies to deploy electric vehicles in Madagascar. This is both a strategic environmental advancement and a practical response to current energy challenges.

Electromobility appears as a relevant solution to reduce urban pollution. Charging infrastructure can be developed gradually, especially since Madagascar enjoys exceptional sunlight, offering significant potential for clean and sustainable energy. This approach reflects a strong conviction: the island's energy future depends more on its natural resources than on importing fossil fuels.

Encouraging motorists to embrace this change is a strategic, forward-looking decision with long-term impact. The environmental benefits are self-evident and align fully with our shared commitment to responsible development.

This partnership with VISEO is thus founded on shared values: innovation, inclusion, sustainability, and ambition for Madagascar.



SDG17: Partnership for the goals With Canal Plus Madagascar, Orphée project

Christmas Celebration with Canal Plus Madagascar and KANTO Project

The Orphée Room, equipped by Canal Plus Madagascar with children's TV programming, serves every Saturday as a welcoming space for our language and music classes.

This year once again, Canal Plus Madagascar, our long-standing partner, is renewing its support to bring joy to the children we serve and offer them a magical moment during the festive season.

For this edition, Canal+ is joining hands with our teams and with the KANTO project—our program dedicated to art and creativity—to make this celebration truly unforgettable for the children in our care.

Two festive days will be held:

- December 19: Christmas party for the children of AKKA Montessori (ages 3 to 6).
- December 20: Celebration for children and youth aged 9 to 19, featuring artistic workshops, fun activities, and meaningful moments of sharing.

Thanks to the generous support of Canal+ Madagascar, we are able to offer children moments of joy, experiences that spark imagination, strengthen confidence, and open new horizons.

With our heartfelt thanks.



Artificial Intelligence - explained to children - with Fenohasina Ramanohery

Artificial Intelligence is gradually becoming a part of our daily lives and media landscape. Not a day goes by without discussions about the feats—or the dangers—of this “new revolution.” In this context, it is crucial to better prepare our youth to recognize real opportunities and also to detect manipulations.

Fenohasina shared their expertise on the topic in a highly appreciated session that was interactive and accessible to everyone.

In our daily work, many of us already use these technologies—to create or revise content, accelerate and deepen academic research, or improve NGO management.

This everyday practice allows us to confidently navigate the constant flood of information while keeping the human element at the heart of our actions.



SD7: Affordable and Clean Energy

New infrastructure.

Let the light be ! And there was the light !



In 2011, when the main building—what we now proudly call the Education For Madagascar campus—finally came to life, we thought we had overcome the hardest part. All that remained was to install the essentials: Water. We placed an order for a connection estimated at €3,000, an exorbitant sum for simple water access—but did we really have a choice? To ensure the operation's success, the bill was paid by bank check, a symbol of our trust—or perhaps our optimism.

For three months, we tracked the progress: 200 meters of PVC piping laid under the relentless sun. Then came the brutal verdict: not a drop of water would flow. The source was dry. No supply. In other words, all that work... for nothing.

Faced with this deprivation, we could have given up. But this building had a purpose, a soul. So we chose another path: self-sufficiency. A 200 m³ rainwater collection tank was installed, and a well was dug. And one day, finally, water began to flow from the taps—an outcome that required a much greater investment than initially planned, but one that proved infinitely more sustainable.

Looking back, we recognized that this challenge had made us pioneers—almost by accident. Fifteen years later, even households near water treatment plants find themselves without access to clean water. Ironically, JIRAMA—the national company barely kept alive—ended up forcing us to innovate.

Then came the question of electricity, and the story repeated itself almost identically. How could we rely on a national company lacking transparency, sound management, or vision? Once again, we had to choose independence.

Solar panels became indispensable—not only to secure our activities but also to offer our construction students a unique hands-on learning opportunity. Their enthusiasm for designing these systems perfectly embodies our philosophy: Turn obstacles into experiences, challenges into skills. Income-generating activities are expected to follow.

Step by step, we are moving closer to Sustainable Development Goal #7: Ensuring access for all to reliable, sustainable, modern, and affordable energy services. A vision, a struggle, but above all, a light—the light of resilience.

6 CLEAN WATER AND SANITATION



7 AFFORDABLE AND CLEAN ENERGY



SDG8: Decent work and economic growth

Social Return on Investment of the SCOLA project

The SCOLA project is built on a simple principle:

- Providing financial support to families so they can send their children to school.
- Training high-potential young people so that they, in turn, become agents of change.

In exchange for the financial support and mentorship they receive, they volunteer to guide younger students — thus creating a positive chain of transmission.

Today, 16 graduates already embody the results of this vision. They work in essential professions with strong economic and social value:

- A midwife
- A polytechnic engineer
- Two tourism professionals
- Two automotive technicians
- A Human Resources manager
- A project officer in entrepreneurship
- Several primary school teachers
- An environmental consultant
- A marketing manager
- A financial director
- A doctor

Each of them embodies the same impact:
Transforming the support they received into value for the community.

SCOLA does more than fund education.
SCOLA builds the future.

Romane Lollichon

Patron of the SCOLA Project



To sponsor a child
or a high-school graduate,
click on the link – photo



New Board and New Members of the Board of Directors – 100% Women

Education For Madagascar Announces New Board of Directors

The Ordinary General Assembly of the NGO Education For Madagascar was held with 44 members on August 31, 2025. The assembly voted for a new board, elected for a one-year term.

We are delighted to introduce our new board—a team full of energy and motivation, ready to take our projects even further.

Michou Andriamalala has been re-elected as Secretary General. A 26-year-old social entrepreneur and dedicated activist, Michou holds a degree in Management and Sustainable Development from ISCAM. She began her journey in volunteer teaching through the NGO, where she also served in a coordination role. Currently a Project Manager at Miarakap, an impact investment fund, Michou supports SMEs in sectors including environment and energy. She is driven by the conviction that education and entrepreneurship are critical to Madagascar's development and aspires to launch her own educational or environmental enterprise.

Henintsoa Moretti, elected Deputy President, is a renowned Malagasy chef and advocate for traditional Malagasy cuisine. She is the founder of Haka Fy Authentic Restaurant in Antananarivo and author of the cookbook Hakafy Tsiro, featuring 22 authentic dishes from across Madagascar. Her work has received international acclaim, with Hakafy Tsiro recognized as a finalist and winner at the prestigious Gourmand World Cookbook Awards. Beyond her culinary achievements, Henintsoa actively engages with local communities, promoting Malagasy gastronomy worldwide and leading impactful social projects. In March 2025, she was inducted as a member of the Disciples Escoffier in the "Madagascar – Indian Ocean" delegation.

Jackie Sutter, Founder and President of Education For Madagascar, brings many years of professional experience in banking, financial audit, management control, and IT systems implementation in Paris. Since relocating to the United Kingdom, she has accelerated her focus on social impact initiatives, particularly in education, environmental sustainability, and community development. She is also a member of American Women of Surrey and the Zonta Club of London.

We extend our sincere gratitude to the outgoing board for their dedication over the years and congratulate the new team for continuing the NGO's mission with renewed energy and vision.



Henintsoa Moretti
Deputy President



Jackie Sutter
President



Michou Andriamalala
General Secretary

**Tribute to the volunteers,
the Z Generation who manages the campus and the villages in the Region**



May this new year bring Peace in the World



To donate,
click here



To renew membership,
click here

