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Vakoka Vakiteny News

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Dear friends of *Vakoka Vakiteny*.

During the year 2010 we started many new book projects, and this year we will be able to finish them. Currently we have five projects of which one, Uncle Tefy, already is almost finished. Some others are further in the distance. Still we hope to have finished all our present activities during the first half of 2011.

Thank you for your support. Without sponsors we wouldn't be able to do any of our recent activities, and we will still be dependent on your help.

Mparany Rakotondrainy
Director of ***Vakoka Vakiteny***

Vakoka Vakiteny...

...is a young and professional publishing company producing literature for children and youth in Malagasy language.

...is owned and run by a dynamic team of young Malagasy.

...contributes to growth and development in Madagascar - culturally and materially.

...promotes the joy of reading and develops the understanding for literature and art in a modern Malagasy environment.

Layout and content:
Sophie Küspert-Rakotondrainy

Distribution of Uncle Tefy

The distribution of Uncle Tefy has begun. First of all we delivered the 385 books which were printed with means from the company Heinzmann in Schönau. These are going to be distributed among schools and children in the area of Ambohimanambola, east of the town of Antsirabe in the highland. ***Vakoka Vakiteny*** will also provide some training and courses for the teachers on these schools to ensure that our philosophy about joy of reading is maintained.

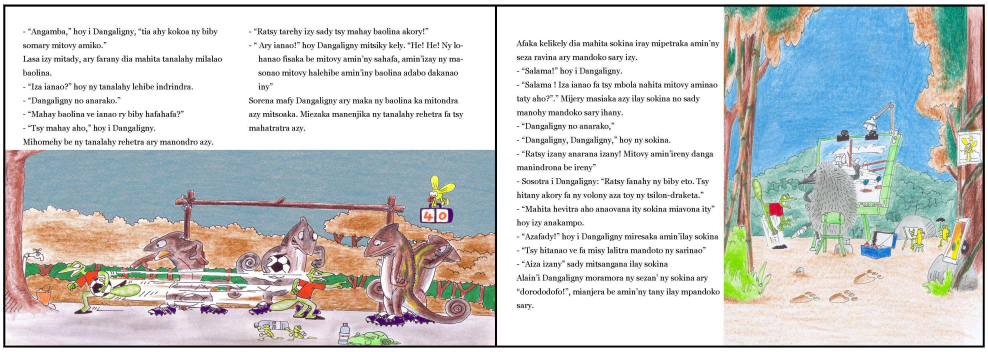
A Norwegian lady, Mrs. Ebba Hauken who recently had birthday asked all her friends to donate money to Vakoka Vakiteny instead of buying presents. Together with some money from the municipality of Stavanger this will make 70 books for the school La Joie in Antsirabe which previously also has received books from ***Vakoka Vakiteny***. We will have some training for the teachers and read for the children from our books at this school in May or June. ***Vakoka Vakiteny*** wants to thank Mrs Hauken and the municipality of Stavanger for this particular possibility.

The distribution of the books will continue in the southern parts of Madagascar. We will also try to sell some of the books on the free marked with the aim of being able to finance future projects.

Reprint of Dangaligny and Konaky

The very first book we released was the children's book Dangaligny and Konaky. This was in 2007. Now a second edition of this book is ready. The pictures are the same as in the first edition, but the layout inside the book has changed and the text has been somewhat shortened. This has been done in order to make the text easier readable for the children. In the first edition of the book, the text was inside the pictures, whereas now the text is on white background. We also have increased the character size and the space between the lines.

The printing of this second edition is partly sponsored by the Reading Centre (Lesesenteret) at the University of Stavanger. They will donate 10 000 NOK (1250 €) for this purpose. In order to be able to print an acceptable number of copies, Vakoka Vakiteny will cover some of the financing by other sources.
The printing of the book is estimated to be done in a few months time.


- "Angamba," hoy i Dangaligny, "tia ahy kokoa ny biby somary mitovy amiko."
Lasa izy mitady, ary farany dia mahita tanalahy milalao baolina.
- "Iza ianao?" hoy ny tanalahy lehibe indrindra.
- "Dangaligny no anarako."
- "Mahay baolina ve ianao ry biby hafahafa?"
- "Tsy mahay aho," hoy i Dangaligny.
Mihomehy be ny tanalahy rehetra ary manondro azy.
- "Ratsy tarehy izy sady tsy mahay baolina akory!"
- " Ary ianao?" hoy Dangaligny mitsiky kely. "He! He! Ny lohanao fisaka be mitovy amin'ny sahafa, amin'izay ny masonao mitovy halehibe amin'ny baolina adabo dakanao iny"
Sorena mafy Dangaligny ary maka ny baolina ka mitondra azy mitsoaka. Miezaka manenjika ny tanalahy rehetra fa tsy mahatratra azy.
Afaka kelikely dia mahita sokina iray mipetraka amin'ny seza ravina ary mandoko sary izy.
- "Salama!" hoy i Dangaligny.
- "Salama ! Iza ianao fa tsy mbola nahita mitovy aminao taty aho?"." Mijery masiaka azy ilay sokina no sady manohy mandoko sary ihany.
- "Dangaligny no anarako,"
- "Dangaligny, Dangaligny," hoy ny sokina.
- "Ratsy izany anarana izany! Mitovy amin'ireny danga manindrona be ireny"
- Sosotra i Dangaligny: "Ratsy fanahy ny biby eto. Tsy hitany akory fa ny volony aza toy ny tsilon-draketa."
- "Mahita hevitra aho anaovana ity sokina miavona ity" hoy izy anakampo.
- "Azafady!" hoy i Dangaligny miresaka amin'ilay sokina
- "Tsy hitanao ve fa misy lalitra mandoto ny sarinao"
- "Aiza izany" sady mitsangana ilay sokina
Alain'i Dangaligny moramora ny sezain' ny sokina ary "dorododofo!", mianjera be amin'ny tany ilay mpandoko sary.

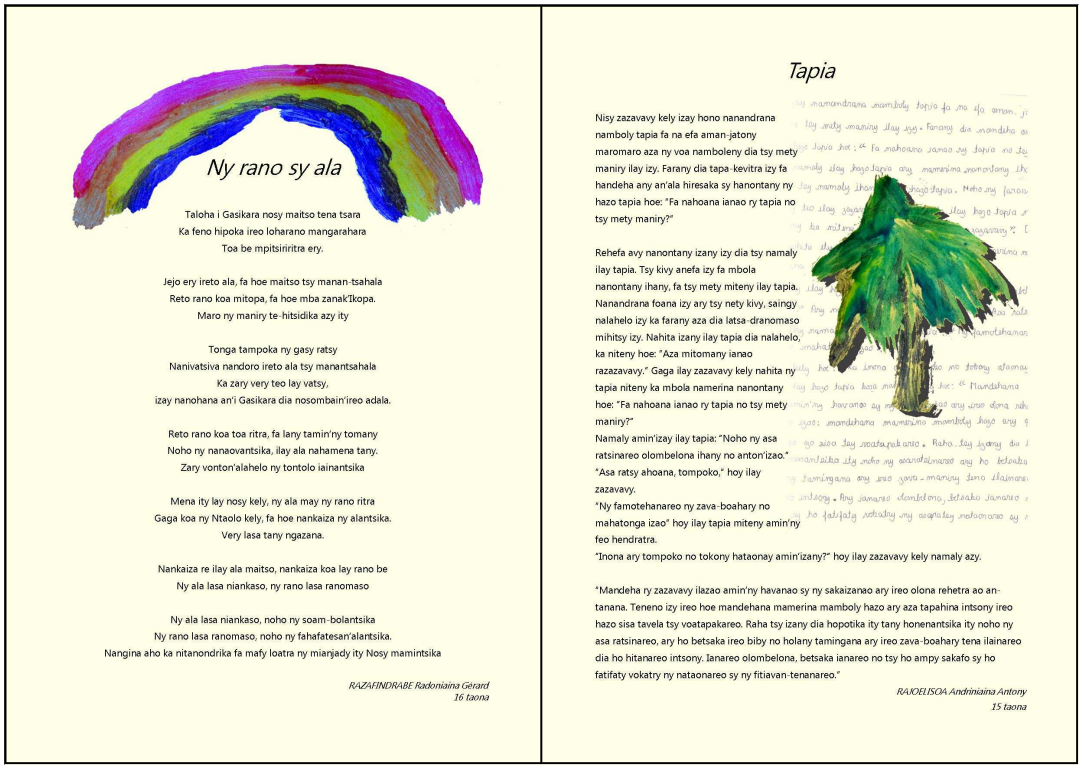
Geographic picture book

Now all the photos for the geographic picture book are taken and we have begun to put them together for the book. We continue the writing of over 50 small texts about towns, nature and people in the 6 provinces of Madagascar. Our illustrator for this book, Voninirina Rakotoson, has started to draw the maps for the book. We hope to have the manuscript ready for printing by April/ May.

Ampanirio, the "green book"

We continue the work with the "green book" Ampanirio which we presented in the last newsletter. The proofreading of the texts is already finished. As soon as the coloring of the last pictures is done, the manuscript will be sent out for correction and approval to the group who was involved in the workshop where the texts were written.

The title we have chosen, "Ampanirio", is the title of a poem written by one of the participants in the workshop. Ampanirio means "make it grow!" in Malagasy, but the verb "to grow" can also mean "to hope". This title underlines the aim of all the different texts in the book: to encourage youth to take care of the environment in Madagascar and to never give up hope.



Ny rano sy ala

Taloha i Gasikara nosy maitso tena tsara
Ka feno hipoka ireo loharano mangarahara
Toa be mpitsiriritra ery.

Jejo ery ireto ala, fa hoe maitso tsy manan-tsahala
Reto rano koa mitopa, fa hoe mba zanak'Ikopa.
Maro ny maniry te-hitsidika azy ity

Tonga tampoka ny gasy ratsy
Nanivatsiva nandoro ireto ala tsy manantsahala
Ka zary very teo lay vatsy,
izay nanohana an'i Gasikara dia nosombain'ireo adala.

Reto rano koa toa ritra, fa lany tamin'ny tomany
Noho ny nanaovantsika, ilay ala nahamena tany.
Zary vonton'alahelo ny tontolo iainantsika

Mena ity lay nosy kely, ny ala may ny rano ritra
Gaga koa ny Ntaolo kely, fa hoe nankaiza ny alantsika.
Very lasa tany ngazana.

Nankaiza re ilay ala maitso, nankaiza koa lay rano be
Ny ala lasa niankaso, ny rano lasa ranomaso

Ny ala lasa niankaso, noho ny soam-bolantsika
Ny rano lasa ranomaso, noho ny fahafatesan'alantsika.
Nangina aho ka nitanondrika fa mafy loatra ny mianjady ity Nosy mamintsika

RAZAFINDRABE Radoniaina Gérard
16 taona

Tapia

Nisy zazavavy kely izay hono nanandrana namboly tapia fa na efa aman-jatony maromaro aza ny voa namboleny dia tsy mety maniry ilay izy. Farany dia tapa-kevitra izy fa handeha any an'ala hiresaka sy hanontany ny hazo tapia hoe: "Fa nahoana ianao ry tapia no tsy mety maniry?"

Rehefa avy nanontany izany izy dia tsy namaly ilay tapia. Tsy kivy anefa izy fa mbola nanontany ihany, fa tsy mety miteny ilay tapia. Nanandrana foana izy ary tsy nety kivy, saingy nalahelo izy ka farany aza dia latsa-dranomaso mihitsy izy. Nahita izany ilay tapia dia nalahelo, ka niteny hoe: "Aza mitomany ianao razazavavy." Gaga ilay zazavavy kely nahita ny tapia niteny ka mbola namerina nanontany hoe: "Fa nahoana ianao ry tapia no tsy mety maniry?"
Namaly amin'izay ilay tapia: "Noho ny asa ratsinareo olombelona ihany no anton'izao."
"Asa ratsy ahoana, tompoko," hoy ilay zazavavy.
"Ny famotehanareo ny zava-boahary no mahatonga izao" hoy ilay tapia miteny amin'ny feo hendratra.
"Inona ary tompoko no tokony hataonay amin'izany?" hoy ilay zazavavy kely namaly azy.

"Mandeha ry zazavavy ilazao amin'ny havanao sy ny sakaizanao ary ireo olona rehetra ao antanana. Teneno izy ireo hoe mandehana mamerina mamboly hazo ary aza tapahina intsony ireo hazo sisa tavela tsy voatapakareo. Raha tsy izany dia hopotika ity tany honenantsika ity noho ny asa ratsinareo, ary ho betsaka ireo biby no holany tamingana ary ireo zava-boahary tena ilainareo dia ho hitanareo intsony. Ianareo olombelona, betsaka ianareo no tsy ho ampy sakafo sy ho fatifaty vokatry ny nataonareo sy ny fitiavan-tenanareo."

RAJOELISOA Andriniaina Antony
15 taona

Page 28—29 containing a poem and a short story

Meeting with Nasrin Siege

Sophie and Nasrin Siege in Addis Ababa

Vakoka Vakiteny has finally met the author of the youth novel about the street girl Todisioa. Nasrin Siege lives in Addis Ababa, and we were able to meet her several times when we were there in February.
It was very inspiring to see her and talk to her. She suggested us to apply for sponsoring for the translation at the Goethe institute in Antananarivo, which we also did. Now it remains to see if our application will be accepted or not.
The original German version of the book about Todisoa will be launched in Germany in August, and after this we can hopefully begin the printing of the Malagasy edition.

People we want to thank especially for their different kinds of support during the year 2010:

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- Embassy of Madagascar in Berlin
- Firma Heinzmann, Schönau
- Sunde skole, Stavanger

Plans for the first 6 months of 2011

January to March:

- Distributing Uncle Tefy
- Public launching of Uncle Tefy in Toliara
- Finishing the manuscript of Ampanirio

April and May:

- Teacher trainings about reading at different schools
- Printing and distributing Ampanirio
- Printing the second edition of Dangaligny and Konaky
- Finishing the manuscript of the geographic picture book

June:

- Finishing the translation of Todisoa
- Printing the geographic picture book
- Contacting institutions in Madagascar about possible inclusion of the geographic picture book in the school curriculum / libraries

We hope that we will be able to come to Germany in July together with our new books to meet the association and the people supporting our work.

Knowledge and joy of reading for children and youth in Madagascar