



Edition **Vakoka Vakiteny**  
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### **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

# **Vakoka Vakiteny News**

## **Dear friends of Vakoka Vakiteny.**

Now it is less than two months until we plan to go to Germany, and there are many things to be done before that time. Two of the manuscripts, Ampanirio and the second edition of Dangaligny and Konaky will be printed soon. The geographic picture book is almost ready to be printed, but we are still waiting for possible partners to decide how many copies they want to print for their own use.

For next school year there will be big changes for the little team of Vakoka Vakiteny as we most likely will be away from Madagascar for several months. But the activities will continue, though in a smaller scale until we return to Madagascar.

*Mparany Rakotondrainy*

Manager of **Vakoka Vakiteny**

## **The youth novel about Todisoa**

Nasrin Siege's book about the street girl Todisoa has now got a title, and a German publishing house, Brandes & Apsel, and will be published in Germany in a few month's time. The title is "Ich kehre zurück, Dadabé" (I'm coming back, Dadabé). Dadabe is the Malagasy word for grandfather and he is an important person for Todisoa in the book.

We have now translated the whole manuscript and are about to reread it and check it over again. Then we are going to begin the proofreading process with external proofreaders for both language and details concerning the culture and dialect of the people Betsimisaraka (one of the 18 Malagasy ethnic groups), which Todisoa and her family belong to.

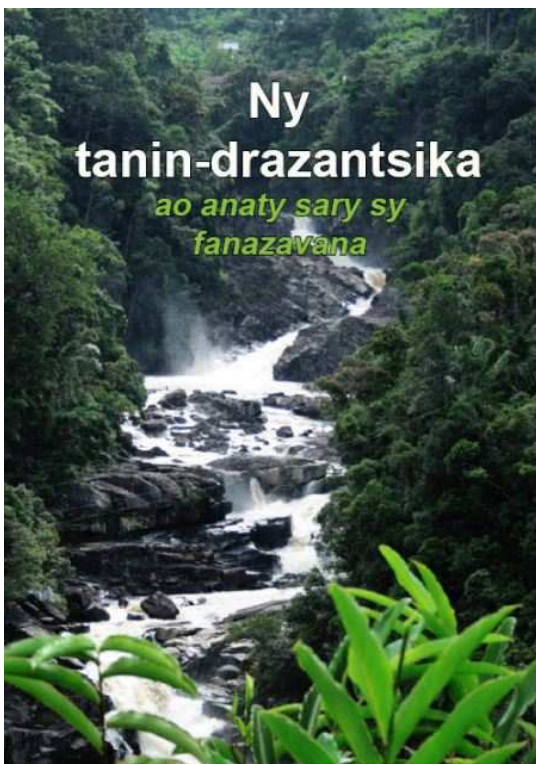
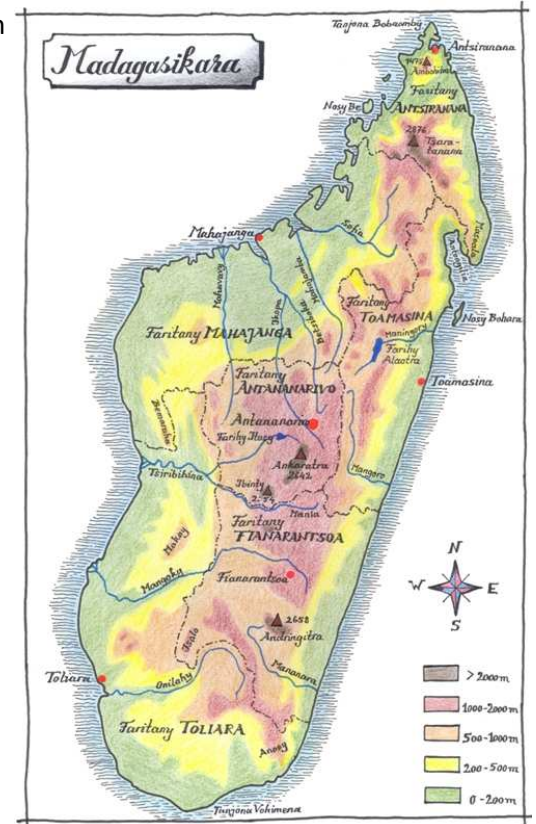
The translation process has been very interesting for both of us (Mparany and Sophie), though it has been hard work. We are very happy that the Malagasy translation has been checked by Dr. Klaus-Christian Küspert to be sure that the original German version is correctly interpreted.



## Geographic picture book

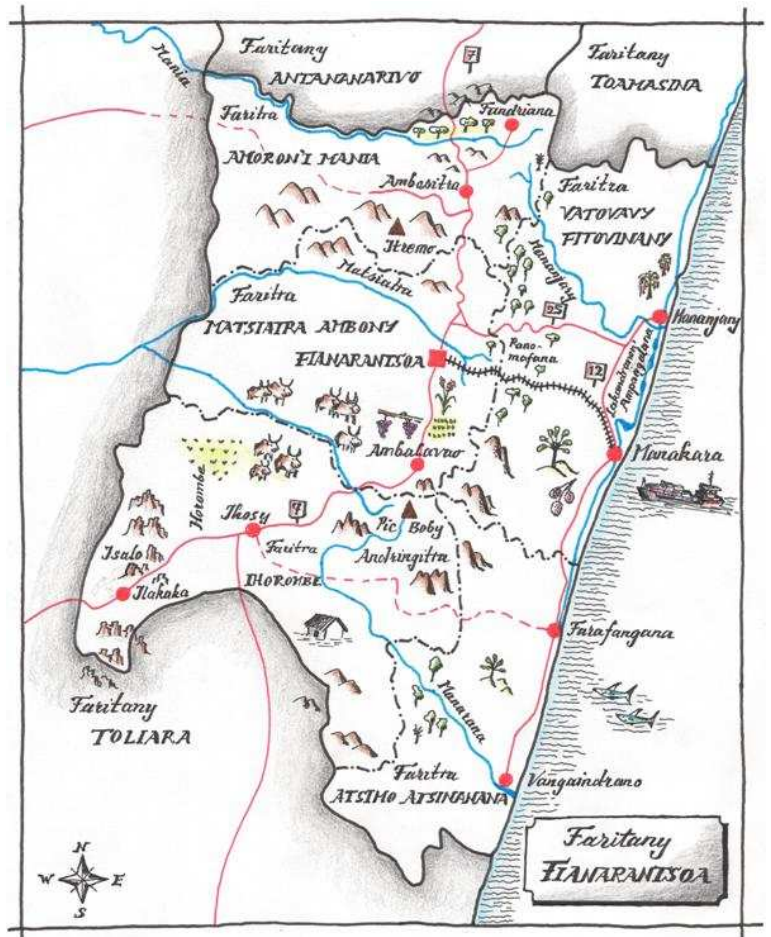
We have chosen to call the book about Malagasy geography for children and youth “Ny tanindrazantsika ao anaty sary sy fanazavana”, which means “Our country in pictures and explanations”. The manuscript is now proofread and almost ready to be printed. However, we still haven’t finished the negotiations with possible printing houses about price and paper quality. The manuscript has also been delivered to different organizations who might be interested in order a higher number of copies. If this succeeds, we will be able to print a higher number of books, which will reduce the printing costs.

The book now contains 68 pages interior, over 80 color photographs, 8 handmade maps and explanations about population, infrastructure, nature, topography, waters and agriculture. We are especially content with the maps, which has been made by Dr. Klaus-Christian Küspert. He voluntarily offered us to draw them when he heard that the illustrator we had asked didn’t have the possibility to make them after all.



Over: The cover

On the right: Map over the province of Fianarantsoa, hand painted by Dr. Küspert.






TENDROMBOHITRA

### Hantsana misy riandrano

Ny faritany Toamasina dia lavalava avaratra-atsimo. Ny 20 km voalohany akaiky ny ranomasina dia tsy misy tendrombohitra sady mamokatra be. Matetika anefa dia misy vohitra fasika eo alohan'ny ranomasina manakona ny fahitana azy.

Rehefa mianandrefana dia misy ny vohitra maro eo amin'ny 500 metatra eo any misy ny lohasaha kely maro. Eto dia efa tsy misy ala loatra intsony. Andrefan'ireto vohitra ireto dia misy ny tendrombohitra maro somary lehibe. Ity mampalaza ny tendrombohitra amin'ny faritany Toamasina dia ny hantsana miatsaka tampoka be mankany amin'ny ranomasina. Anisan'ny hantsana malaza dia Angavo izay hita andrefan'ny Toamasina.


Amin'ireto tendrombohitra ireto dia mbola ahitana ala orizinaly any tsy misy olona loatra mipetraka eto. Lalina ny lohasaha eto any misy riandrano maro mahafinritra. Misy ny riandrano mahatratra 100 metatra mahery avy any ambony.



Riandrano midina mianatsinanana avy amin'ny tendrombohitra

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RENIRANO SY FARIHY



Farihy Alaotra


### Farihy Alaotra sy ireo renirano fohy feno rano

Ny farihy Alaotra any Ambatondrazaka dia 20.000 hektara any farihy lehibe indrindra eran'ny Madagasikara. Ny rano dia marivo any mbola miha marivo kokoa noho ny renirano mitondra fasika sy tany. Manodidina ny farihy dia misy fam-bolem-bary betsaka noho ny toetr'andro tandriny amin'izany. Ny tendrombohitra manodidina azy dia manakana ny rivotra mafy avy atsinanana tsy hiditra ao any ny orana dia ampy tsara koa.

Misy renirano maro be tsy azo isaina avy amin'ny tendrombohitra mankany amin'ny Oseana Indiana any atsinanana ny nosy. Ny lehibe indrindra amin'ireny dia i Mangoro izay mahita ranomasina any Mahanoro. Anisan'ny lehibe koa dia ny Maningory izay mandeha avy amin'ny farihy Alaotra mankany amin'ny ranomasina avaratra Fenoanvo Atsinanana.

Matetika dia fohy sady feno rano ny renirano miatsinanana raha ampitahaina amin'ny renirano mianandrefana. Midina bebe kokoa ny haavo any izay no mahatonga ny renirano midina mafy any manome riandrano matetika.

Manomboka any Toamasina ny Lakandranon'Am-pangalana izay mandalo amin'ny farihy maromaro amin'ny lalany mankany amin'ny faritany Fianarantsoa. Anisan'ny farihy dia ny farihy Nosive.



Vehivavy mambohy vary akaiky ny farihy Alaotra

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Pages 32 and 33 about mountains and waters in the province of Toamasina. The east of Madagascar is famous for its steep mountains with waterfalls and rivers carrying much water. The lake Alaotra, which is in the north of the province, is the largest lake in Madagascar.

TONTOLO IAINANA

### "Eco tourisme"

Ny tourisme dia manome asa ny olona maro eto Madagasikara. Anisan'ny toerana maro vahiny dia Nosy Be izay manana hoteli maro sy toa-pasika sy natiora manokana. Misy koa ny faramanidina mandeha mankany andafy any Andoany.

Amin'izao dia maro ny olona manao "eco tourisme". Izany dia ezaka manokana amin'ny fandraisana vahiny tsy manimba tontolo iainana any tsy manova ny kolontsain'ny olona. Anisan'izany fanimbana izany dia ny zava-mahadomelina sy ny fivarotan-tena any ny fanimbana ny natiora.

Any Nosy Be dia misy ny tolotra maro ao anatin'ny "eco tourisme". Anisan'izany dia ny fijerena ny valan-java-boahary natioraly sy ny ranomasina manodidina Nosy Be. Ny mponina ao no mitondra ny vahiny any lasa mahazo asa saha azy ny olona.



Mivarotra ao amin'ny toa-pasika ny Ranena any Antsiranana mampiseho ny fitaity Antakarana

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TONTOLO IAINANA

### Fanondranana "bois de rose"

Ny faritany Antsiranana dia ahitana ny karazana ala rehetra maro eto Madagasikara afa-tsy ny ala maina akaiky Tolara. Any atsinanana dia somary lena ny andro, ary ny andrefana afa-tsy Nosy Be, dia somary maina kokoa.

Ao anaty ala atsinanana ny faritany akaiky Sambava sy Antalaha dia misy ny hazo maro manokana dia indrindra ny "bois de rose". Izany dia hazo misy eto Madagasikara fotsiny any tena manandanja be io hazo io. Azo anaovana sary sikotra sy fanaka mahafinritra ilay izy.

Noho ity karazan-kazo ity tady ho longotra, dia rarana ny manapakaka azy raha tsy misy fifanazianana manokana. Mampalahelo anefa fa mbola maro be ny olona manapaka sy mivarotra azy an-tsokosoko amin'ny olona izay manondrana azy mankany andafy. Ny palisandre koa manahaka izany.

Misy koa ny fandefasana sokatra mankany andafy izay atao any atsimon'ny Madagasikara. Efa tady tsy hisy sokatra intsony ny ala kanefa mbola mahita sokatra amidy ihany ny olona. Ny tena mampalahelo dia miha-mahantra ny natiora sy ny olona any an-toerana fa ny olona vitsy ihany no manam-bola. Fa na dia mahantra aza ny olona lokaly dia manana andraikitra amin'ny fikojakojana ny natiora koa izy ireo.



Seranan-tsambo amin'ny "Place Joffre" any Antsiranana izay misy ny fanondranana

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Two pages about environment in the northern province Antsiranana. The island Nosy Be is one of the most touristic places in Madagascar, so therefore we explain about eco tourism here. One of the major environmental problems in Madagascar, and especially in this province is illegal exportation of precious woods.

## *Two manuscripts at the printing house*

The manuscript of Ampanirio, the environment book, has been at the printing house two weeks now, and we hope that we will receive the test print soon. Recently we also sent the manuscript of the new edition of Dangaligny and Konaky to the printing house.

## *Pictures from the distribution of "Heinzmann's" books*

The donation from the company Heinzmann in Schönau were used to print 385 books for children in the 5th grade at the schools in Ambohi-manambola and surrounding, a municipality on the countryside about 20 km from Antsirabe. Some of these schools are very remote and can only be reached by foot or ox cart.

The books were carried by car and foot to the different schools where the pupils received their books. The parents of the children were also asked to come to the school to listen to information about literature and how important it is to let their child read.

There is no doubt that the teachers, as well as the children and their parents appreciated Uncle Tefy!



Over:

Carrying of the books to the schools by foot.

The children in the 5th grade at Ambohi-manambola primary school.

On the left:

Parents gathered in the classroom to hear about literature and reading.



## *Book sale and public launching of Uncle Tefy*

On Saturday 9th of April Uncle Tefy was exposed publicly for the first time in Toliara city center together with the other Vakoka Vakiteny books. We exposed the books, played music and showed information about our work on a poster.

We have now been present at the marked place four Saturdays, and met interested people. Some children were only reading, whereas some parents seized the possibility to buy books for their children to a subsidized price. We have also now got an agreement with the local bookstore about exposing some of our books in the shop. We will of course continue to be at the marked place every Saturday morning until mid June.

Last week we showed our books to "Edition Tsipika", a publishing house with its own bookstore in Antananarivo. They liked the books very much, and agreed to try to sell some copies of all the titles in their shop.




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## *Plans for the summer and next school year*

We are coming to Germany in July, and we will have a few meetings and events in the name of Vakoka Vakiteny. We hope to meet the association board, and will of course try to meet as many of our sponsors as possible.

As for next year it seems like Sophie will be able to continue her studies in Norway. For the sake of the family we also hope that Mparany will be able to follow her and stay in Norway and Germany for the next school year. However, this does not mean that the activities of Vakoka Vakiteny will close down. We have already found a person able and willing to take over some technical tasks concerning distribution, money transfer, etc. We will of course direct the work from Europe.

However, this means that we have not planned to print new titles next school year except those we already have prepared. Instead we will try to make more publicity in Europe so that we can continue our work when we come back to Madagascar after one year.

We hope that the members of the associations and all the other people supporting us will not stop their enthusiasm. We will of course continue to send newsletters and updates on the work.

**Thank you very much for still supporting our work!**

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