

PROJECT PROGRESS REPORT

1. Project information:

Project title:

Stop the increase of lemurs' threats induced by COVID-19

Project code: 41148-D

Organization: Mikajy Natoria Association

Project duration: 2 years (January 2024-December 2025)

Project reporting period: January- December 2024

2. Project report:

This report summarizes the main achievements of the following activities: development of alternative livelihoods, implementation of health services, and promotion of lemur education and community outreach over a one-year period.

Activity 1: Development of alternative livelihoods

Existing livelihood activities, such as cultivating fast-growing crops and poultry farming, were expanded to reach more households, effectively addressing the needs of local communities. Over the project period, we distributed 250 kg of maize seeds and 100 kg of rice seeds with short growth cycles, enabling harvests within three months. Additionally, we provided 72 chickens and 30 ducks to enhance local food security. The distribution of seeds, chickens, and ducks was facilitated by the village chief. In total, 320 households, including single-parent families, benefited from this initiative.

Activity 2: Implementation of health services

Medical consultations were conducted in collaboration with Basic Health Center 1 in Maromandia. These consultations occurred every two months, scheduled based on the availability of five participating doctors. Villagers were informed a day in advance to ensure preparedness. Each session lasted one day, starting at 8:30 AM and ending around 3:00 PM.

Mikajy Natoria managed the procurement of medicines, which were distributed free of charge. The organization also covered doctors' travel expenses and allowances. In return, villagers agreed to abstain from slash-and-burn farming, hunting, and to actively participate in conservation activities such as reforestation, village clean-ups, and awareness campaigns.

On average, 110 patients were treated at each consultation. Common ailments included malaria, sexually transmitted infections, fatigue, abdominal pain, and high blood pressure.

During the consultations, villagers also participated in activities like cleaning the village and improving access to the Andilambologno forest. Notably, no fires were reported in the forest area during the project period.

Activity 3: Lemur education & community outreach

Over the project period, we organized three awareness-raising events during Earth Day, World Environment Day, and National Lemur Day. The National Lemur Day celebration, organized by the Ministry of Environment and Sustainable Development, attracted approximately 30 organizations focused on environmental protection. Mikajy Natiora actively participated by inviting rangers and local villagers to share their experiences in lemur conservation.

During these events, educational materials were distributed, including 200 t-shirts, 90 sarongs (for authorities), 200 stickers, and 348 calendars.