FEEDBACK MADAGASCAR conservation & development hand in hand

Seeds For Change II

Progress Report Year One

1st June 2015 to 31st May 2016

For donor partners

The Jo Walters Trust

This report covers the progress of activities over the 12 month period from the project start date, 1st June 2015, until 31st May 2016. In covering the full period it incorporates, and so repeats, some details from the interim 5 month progress report of October 2015.

The direct beneficiaries of the project are the 796 signed-up members, and their house-holds, of 21 Community Forest Management Associations, (CFMs), the majority of which participated in the Seeds for Change I project. See Table 1. CFMs tend to comprise most households living in villages which are located around or between forest parcels of a combined total of 15,000 hectares. FBM/NT realizes activities primarily via technicians who live permenantly in one village and make regular vists to neighbouring villages.

The principle activities of the community forest management plans, previously established with FBM/NT, are to protect the forest from fire, restore natural forest and grow utility trees for fuel, construction and trade. The utility trees will diminish the need for exploitation of the natural forest. SFCII provides the training, finance and technical input, and the community motivation to mobilise these activities. SFCII supports the participating communities in improving their livelihoods so they have time, resources and incentives to manage the Tapia forest in addition to their own well-being.

Community members who participate in the forest management and agricultural improvement activities (community work) receive seeds from SFCII. They use them to build up their own long-term seed stock as well as benefiting from improved harvests. Thereafter they will depend on their own seed production. FBM/NT also provides agro-forestry training to increase crop production, sustainable land management and nature friendly agriculture.

Following the trials of many seed types in the SFCI project of 2014, this October 2015 the CFMs have focused majorly on 3 crops, chosen for their successful production, cost (mainly labour)/ benefit ratio, robust market value and long shelf-life. These are beans, peanuts and rice. Smaller amounts of other vegetable crops introduced by SFC I are being grown according to the varying preferences of each household. These are not being monitored directly by our technicians (accurate data is too time consuming to gather) but farmers have learned to make their own evaluations. There are nearly 800 practicing households planting different crops at different times in many many plots.

This report presents the progress of the seven key activities funded. The calendar of activities largely determines the extent of progress.

Table 1. Beneficiaries, location and member totals

COMMUNE	VILLAGE	CFM NAME	NUMBER OF MEMBER HOUSEHOLDS
AMBOHIMAHAZO ANJOMAN'ANKONA	Antapia	ALAMANDROSO	19
	Analanapela	AVOTRA	22
	Antanifotsy	SOAMIARADIA	28
	Faliarivo	MAITSOVOLO	28
		SOUS-TOTAL	97
ILAKA		MIARADIA	75
		LOVASOA	33
AMBOHIMANJAKA		FIOMBONANA	94
		FANDRESENA	51
		SOUS-TOTAL	253
AMBATOFINANDRAHANA	Ivary	TANTSAHAMIANALA	36
	Mahavanona	MAHAIMIRAY	25
	Riandampona	MANIRISOA	25
	Ambatoharanana	MITSINJOSOA	32
	Ambohimanandriana	TARATRA	35
	Andrahalana	FITAMIHALA	20
	Ambalamarina	FANILO	32
	Marovoalavo	LOVASOA AVOTRA	40
	Ambatomenaloha	TSARAHASINA	23
	Vinany	FIRAISANKINA	16
	Andraikita	SOAMANDROSO	115
		SOUS-TOTAL=	348
ITREMO	Itremo	FANAVAOZANA	52
	Ifasina	SOAHOTANTERAKA	31
		SOUS-TOTAL	83
		TOTAL	**796**

Since the beginning of SFC1 There has been a steady increase in membership from 629 to 796. At the beginning of SFCII it was 713.

The average household size is 6 family members. 6 x 796 = **4776** direct beneficiaries

Progress of Activities set out in the project proposal

1. A study of the Seeds for Change project results, impact and methodology

This is an on-going study by the project team. Details of the SFC1 2014 project were reported in the October 2015 progress report. These results are written up in a live document (Latest version in Malagasy. Annex 1.) which has been distributed and discussed with all 21 CFMs.

The results of SFC I proved positive and encouraging and have secured the continued motivation of participants. The document so far includes harvest yields and has identified the key reasons for local failures and successes. Regular transfer of information between each CFM has been via the sharing of this study, discussion with project staff and visiting representatives from nearby CFMs. Two major workshops were held in June 2016 in Ambatofinandrahana and Ambohimanjaka where farmers from different CFMs came together to share information. The effects of this information sharing are significant. Actions and attitudes are bragged about, argued about and condemned. Decisions are made, working relationships are established and seeds of change of "ideas" are planted. The discussions and impact continues long after the formal meetings and the journeys home.

2. Improve the production levels and efficiency of 42 tree/crop nurseries and demonstration plots. 2 year objectives:-

63,000 tapia seedlings (for indigenous forest restoration)

100,000 eucalyptus seedlings (for fuel and timber)

2,000 citrus fruit seedlings,

2,000 coffee seedlings

Various other tree seedlings, without targets, including inga, avocado, papaya, and albizia

Seedling production in the 21 CFM nurseries

The day-to-day management and maintenance of the tree nurseries is carried out by the 2 local, volunteer nurserymen from each CFM. The remaining CFM members carry out the big group tasks and individuals assist occasionally as required for smaller tasks that are too much for the 2 nurserymen. This year these group tasks included the making and transporting of manure and compost, the preparation of the potting mixture, the filling of pots, the transport of seedlings and the planting out of seedlings. The tapia and eucalyptus pots and seeds were prepared in September and planted out in March and April. FBM/NT technicians provided training and supervision.

For the first year, CFMs determined the following objectives in total: to produce 2106 citrus seedlings 10,900 coffee seedlings, 31,500 tapia seedlings and 100,000 eucalyptus. Note CFM set targets were more ambitious than FBM/NTs'.
These targets were surpassed for citrus, and tapia but missed for coffee and eucalyptus, due mainly to low levels of germination. A major factor identified by Kew (FBM/NT partners in the wider agroforestry project) is the poor quality of seed purchased from their national partners, the Silo National des Graines Forestieres (SNGF). The project is investigating the possibility of FBM/NT and/or CFMs producing their own eucalyptus seed stock. At present SNGF is the only national supplier and their seed quality is repeatedly poor.

Provision of plastic pots, seeds and other contributions by FBM/NT

As well as giving training and supervision FBM/NT provided 140,000 plastic pots (7,000/CFM) of two sizes 8x12cm and 9x15cm. Alternatives to plastic were investigated, such as bamboo and raffia. However the extra cost of production, transportation and effectiveness of these alternatives would compromise the levels of production which was deemed ultimately more important.
FBM/NT also funded nominal, out of pocket expenses/per diem for the nurserymen. This is a sum that could reasonably be raised by the CFM in future years when they generate income from increased agroforestry production.
18 of the 21 CFMs are now successfully producing their own compost. FBM/NT helped buy and/or transport varying quantities of organic manure for 5 CFMs where immediate sourcing was not possible due to lack of livestock. This is only for the first year to give time for compost and manure to be accumulated by CFMs themselves for year 2.
FBM/NT provided eucalyptus seeds purchased from SNGF and, from numerous private sources, arabica bourbon coffee, and arabica Kenyan AA coffee and citrus fruit (oranges and mandarins) seeds. CFMs collected the indigenous Tapia fruit and prepared the seeds themselves having learned the process in SFCI.

VAM (Vascular, Arbuscula, Mycorhizah) training.
VAM technology was introduced to increase the resilience and success of the Tapia seedlings and to speed up the restoration of the ecosystem and, specifically, recovery of the soil ecology.
4 FBM/NT technicians were trained by a specialist in the science of VAM and techniques for producing and using Mycorrihiza. Each CFM then received 2 days of training.

Tapia germinated with VAM in plastic pots in Marovoalavo tree nursery. Shade apron made from invasive pine. This picture also shows the lack of topsoil and historic burning in the top layer..

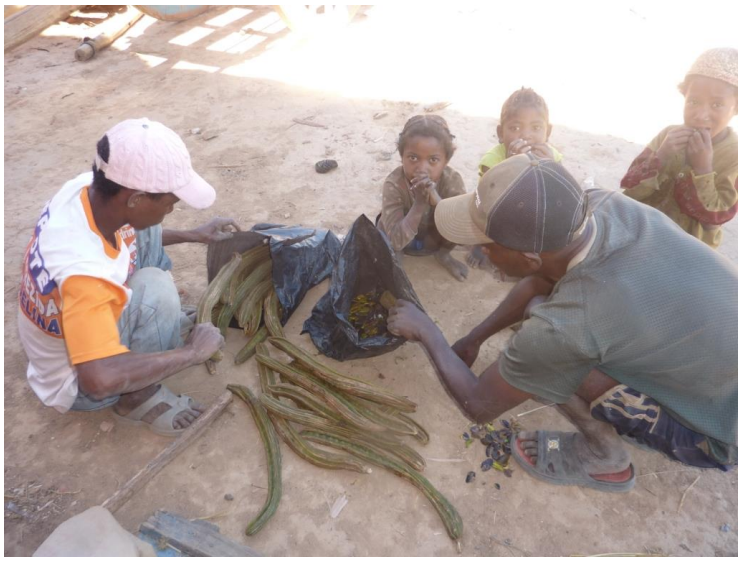
Supply of Eucalyptus Seed

This activity was well executed in practice but had poor results possibly due to bad seed stock. 1050 g of seeds (approximately 120 000 seeds) or 50 g (approx 5700 seeds) per CFM were distributed. These were bought from the sole identified source in Madagascar, SNGF. 18 of the 21 CFMs succeeded in producing seedlings to varying degrees. (See Table 2.). Despite good practice and nursery management, the overall results were poor for all CFMs. The poor quality of seed stock was confirmed by Kew who had similar results with their own trials. Next year the project and CFMs will work on producing their own seed stock. Farmers from Ambalavoa (300 miles south of the project) who currently produce their own seeds are being approached with a view to them training the project CFM members; farmer to farmer training. Three CFMs did not participate this year as their communities chose to work in contract with private companies MALTO, producing barley for beer, and FORMAPROD producing peanuts for oil. This is a valid short-term commercial decision for a community to make and was respected by FBM/NT. However FBM/NT did advice against the decision. These companies provide the barley and peanut seed and pay for the harvest. It is a relatively high risk scheme should the single crop fail and depletes the soil fertility without any investment in long term viability.

Supply of citrus, coffee and other seeds

The project purchased and distributed tens of kilograms of citrus fruit, from which the CFM members extracted seeds.

7 CFMs chose to produce coffee seedlings. Two varieties of Coffee Arabica were selected, Bourbon and Kenyan AA. Recommended by Kew these are most appropriate for the temperatures, climate, soil and altitude of the region and also have the highest market value.
None of the Coffee Bourbon seeds processed by the CFMs germinated. However a trial sample by technicians succeeded. It is thought the failure by CFMs was due to poor seed processing techniques before planting. FBM/NT technicians aim to address this with training next year.
The Coffee Kenya AA proved very successful. These were grown by households who had successfully learned how to process them from locally sourced ripe cherries in SFCI.
Ultimately the original 2 year production target of 2000 seedlings was already significantly surpassed. 3711 seedlings were produced.



Preparing Inga seeds….and eating them

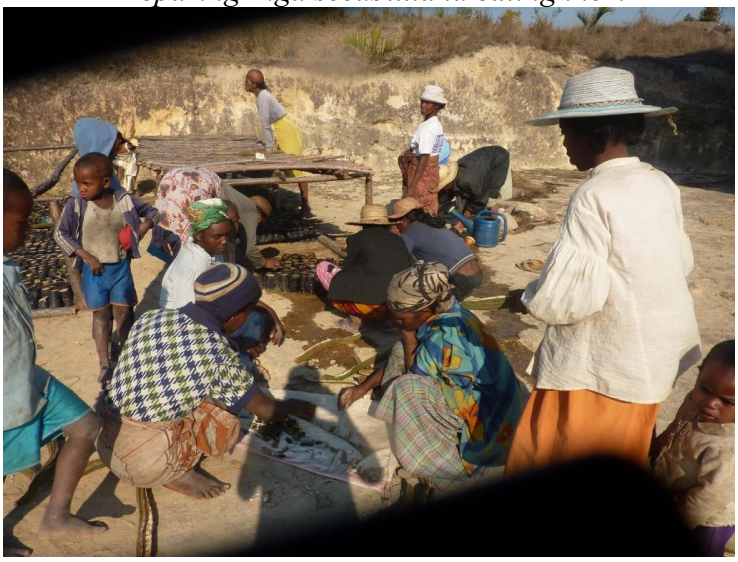


Table 2. Seedlings successfully germinated and growing in nurseries

VOI et localité	**Tapia**	**Eucalyptus**	**Citrus**	**Caféier**	**Albizzia**	Autres espèces
ALAMANDROSO Antapia	1920	-	-	21	00	-
AVOTRA Analanapela	2098	0	58	769	2	328 Papaya
SOAMIARADIA Antanifotsy	2500	28	-	1409	72	-
MAITSOVOLO Faliarivo	2043	86	-	20	82	-
MIARADIA Isandra	3040	209	19	360	0	
LOVASOA Fandrainjato	2150	0	-	0	-	-
FIOMBONANA Ambohimanjaka	4131	120	16	32	-	--
FANDRESENA Ambohipo	2179	111		0	-	
TANTSAHAMIANALA Ivary	800	1200	272	1100	-	
FIRAISANKINA Vinany	1350		-	-	-	
SOAMANDROSO Andraikita	4600	3990	42	--	-	
MAHAIMIRAY Mahavanona	4185	2410	-	-	-	1400 Acacia 100 Tamarinds
MANIRISOA Riandampona	4180	480	700	-	-	
MITSINJOSOA Ambatoharanana	55	340	-	-	-	
FITAMIHALA Andrahalana	150	-	-	-	-	
FANILO Ambalamarina	172	-	-	-	-	
LOVASOA AVOTRA Marovoalavo	3720	2000	-	-	-	
TARATRA Ambohimanandriana	1519	2000	757		-	
TSARAHASINA Ambatomenaloha	-	-	-	-	-	
Itremo FANAVAOZANA	3000	1000	-	-	-	1000 Inga 810 tamarinds 200 mixed indigenous
SOAHOTANTERAKA Ifasina	2000	1000	165	-	-	
TOTAL	**45790**	**13974**	**2706**	**3711**	**156**	**3838**

3. *An evaluation with 21 Community Forest Management Associations (CFMs) of forest restoration to date and the development of a community monitoring system incorporating delimitation of areas using GPS.*

Technicians and CFM members surveyed and selected areas for forest restoration and incorporated them into the community forest management plans. Many factors are taken into consideration such as; ecological conditions of soil, climate, water, shelter; ecological value eg extending existing forest edge, filling empty patches, extending corridors or linking disconnected fragments; threat levels of fire, exploitation by outsiders for firewood and charcoal, flooding and drought; accessibility eg distance from tree nursery, distance from labour and surveillance, access to water.

158 hectares of tapia forest have been restored by SFC I and SFC II year 1.

Tapia forest restoration , Ambohimanjaka

Table 3. Tapia forest restoration planted in March 2015 and March 2016

CFM location	**Area restored - Hectares**
Antapia	10
Analanapela	05
Antanifotsy	10
Faliarivo	05
Fandrainjato	20
Isandra	05
Ambohimanjaka	35
Ambohipo	06
Ivary	02
Andraikita	13
Mahavanona	07
Ambohimanandriana	05
Andrianampona	10
Andrahalana	03
Ambalamarina	03
Marovoalavo	12
Ifasina	07
TOTAL	**158**

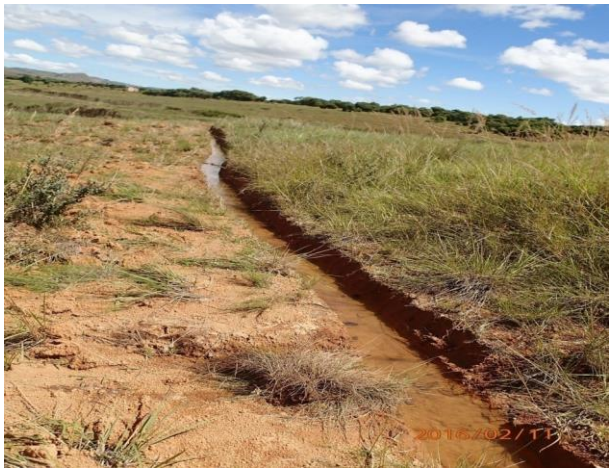
Areas have been calculated by physical measurement, where viable, and visual approximation. Technicians have received an introductory training in use of GPS equipment but will require follow up training before recording reliable accurate data

4. ***Develop community work strategies, linked with seed distribution, to construct irrigation canals in order to rehabilitate infertile land, to increase production and land health and reduce pressure on natural forest.***

   Target. Identification of land for rehabilitation and construction of 20kms of irrigation canals.

The construction and maintenance of Irrigation channels - 27.85 kms

SFCII, at the request of 7 CFMs, introduced the new community work of irrigation channel building. The objective is to enable the planting of crops on cleared land that is redundant through the dry season (May to October) and also precarious if the rains do not come in time. Usually the water comes from the Tapia forest watersheds. The other CFMs did not do this activity as their land and watersheds are not suited to this solution. Sometimes planting is in many distant, scattered, small areas that cannot be viably irrigated this way.
The two year target of 20 kms of channel has been reached already and so the benefits of new viable land will be exploited in year 2.



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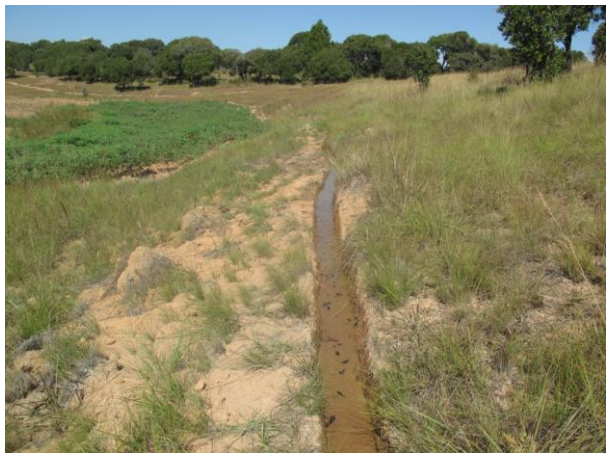


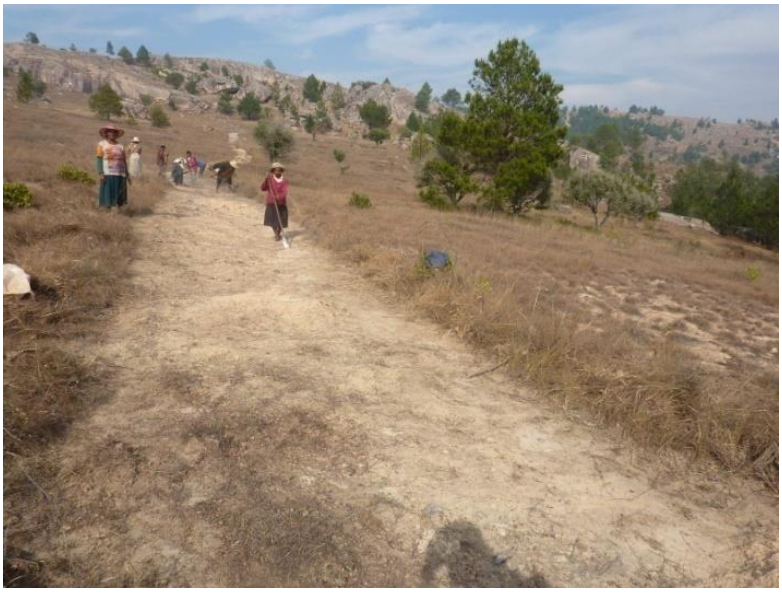
Irrigation canals near Ivary with Tapia forest in background

Table 4. Irrigation canals constructed and functioning.

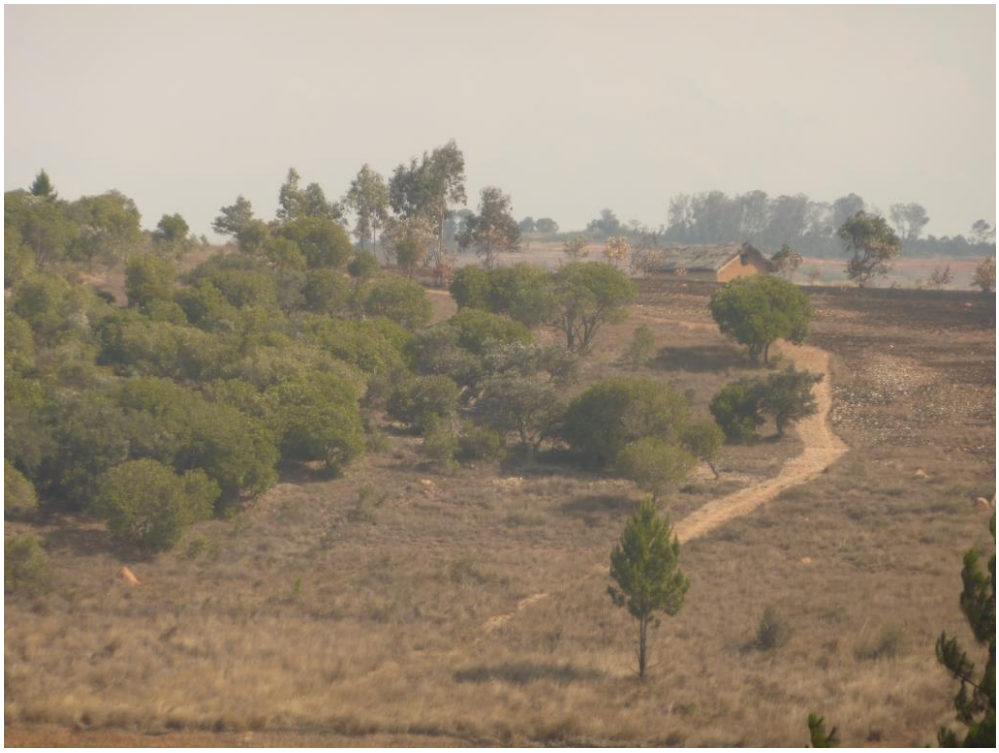
CFM	Metres of Irrigation canal constructed
Ambohimanjaka(Fandresena)	8500
Ambohimanjaka(Fiombonana)	9350
Antapia	1000
Ivary	3000
Andraikita	2500
Mahavanona	2000
Ambatoharanana	1500
TOTAL	**27850**

Fire Barrier creation and maintenance. - 136.5 km

Fire is the principle accidental threat to the tapia forest and agroforestry plantations. These tend to be grass fires that have got out of control that are set by people either for a) pastoral green bite for cattle, or b) to clear and temporarily nourish land with ash for planting or c) occasionally out of malice, such as political aggravation or d) set by fleeing cattle thieves. Like the tree-planting it is up to the CFMs to motivate their members. 19 CFMs carried out maintenance of the existing 202km of fire barriers created during SFC I and an additional 136.5 km were created. The CFMs plan and prioritise the positioning of fire barriers. Most often they are established around the new tapia saplings, where fires are most likely to occur and sometimes where they are likely to be used as paths so foot fall helps to keep them clear.



Maintaining fire barrier at Fandrianjato



Functioning fire barrier. See scorched grass and trees outside cleared barrier

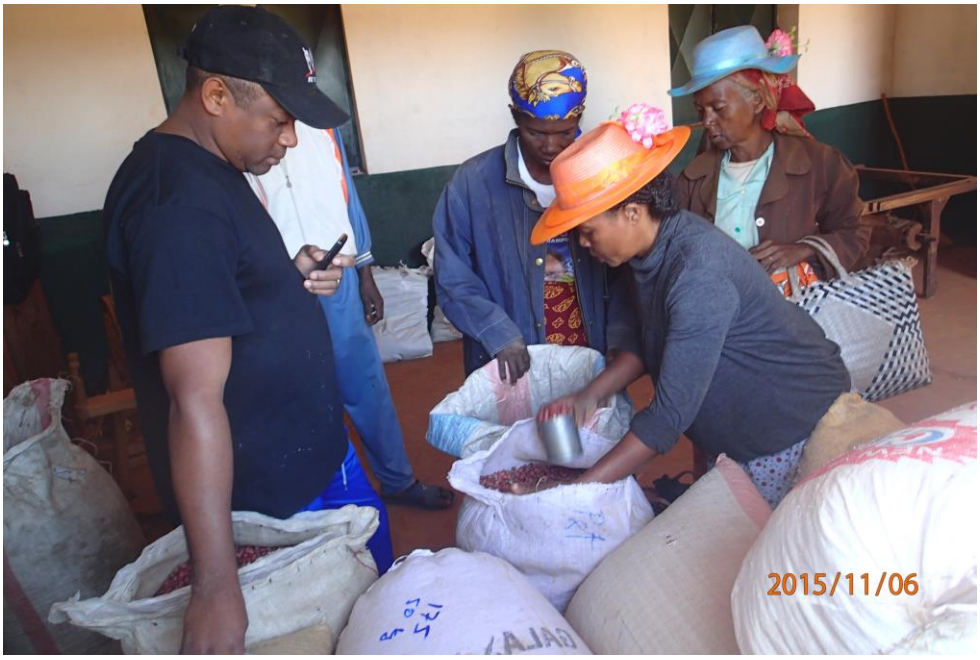
Seed distribution to each CFM

772 of the 796 CFM member households received seeds in return for their community work participation. The project supplied rice, beans and peanuts as requested following the conclusions of the SFC I participatory evaluation. Each CFM also organized its own distribution of smaller qualities of mixed seeds from their own seed banks started during SFCI. The Ambatofinandrahana CFMs selecting peanuts and rice and those in the region of Manadriana selecting peanuts and beans. After SFC1 Manadriana have established their own seed bank and system for distributing rain-fed rice. Even households that did not participate in the digging of irrigation dams or clearing of fire barriers received seeds in return for tree nursery work.

Seed distribution for digging of irrigation cannals, Ambohimanjaka

Table 6. Distribution of seeds by project

CFM/LOCALITE	HARICOT (En kg)	ARACHIDES (En kg)	RIZ PLUVIAL (En kg)	Number of households benefiting
ALAMANDROSO Antapia	57	57	-	13
AVOTRA Analanapela	90	90	-	19
SOAMIARADIA Antanifotsy	84	84	-	28
MAITSOVOLO Faliarivo	84	84	-	28
MIARADIAIsandra	200	200	-	41
LOVASOA Fandrainjato	119	119	-	44
FIOMBONANA Ambohimanjaka	200	200	-	66
FANDRESENA Ambohipo	210	210	-	51
Sous-total=	**1044**	**1044**	-	
TANTSAHAMIANALA Ivary	-	-	40	14
Vinany	-	-	80	16
SOAMANDROSO Andraikita	-	-	160	66
MAHAIMIRAY Mahavanona	-	-	120	66
MANIRISOA Riandampona	-	-	40	41
Ambatoharanana	-	-	80	35
Andrahalana	-	-	80	33
Ambalamarina	-	-	40	32
Marovoalavo	-	-	120	45
FANDRESENA Ambohimanandriana	-	-	70	58
Itremo	-	-	96	38
SOAHOTANTERAKA Ifasina	-	-	40	11
TSARAHASINA Ambatomenaloha	-	-	-	Aucun résultat sur les travaux de pare-feu et pépinières
Sous-total	1044	1044	966	
TOTAL	**1044**	**1044**	**966**	**772**



FBM/NT technician Nirina riveted by the peanut count, using the universal Malagasy measurement vessel, the empty condensed milk can.

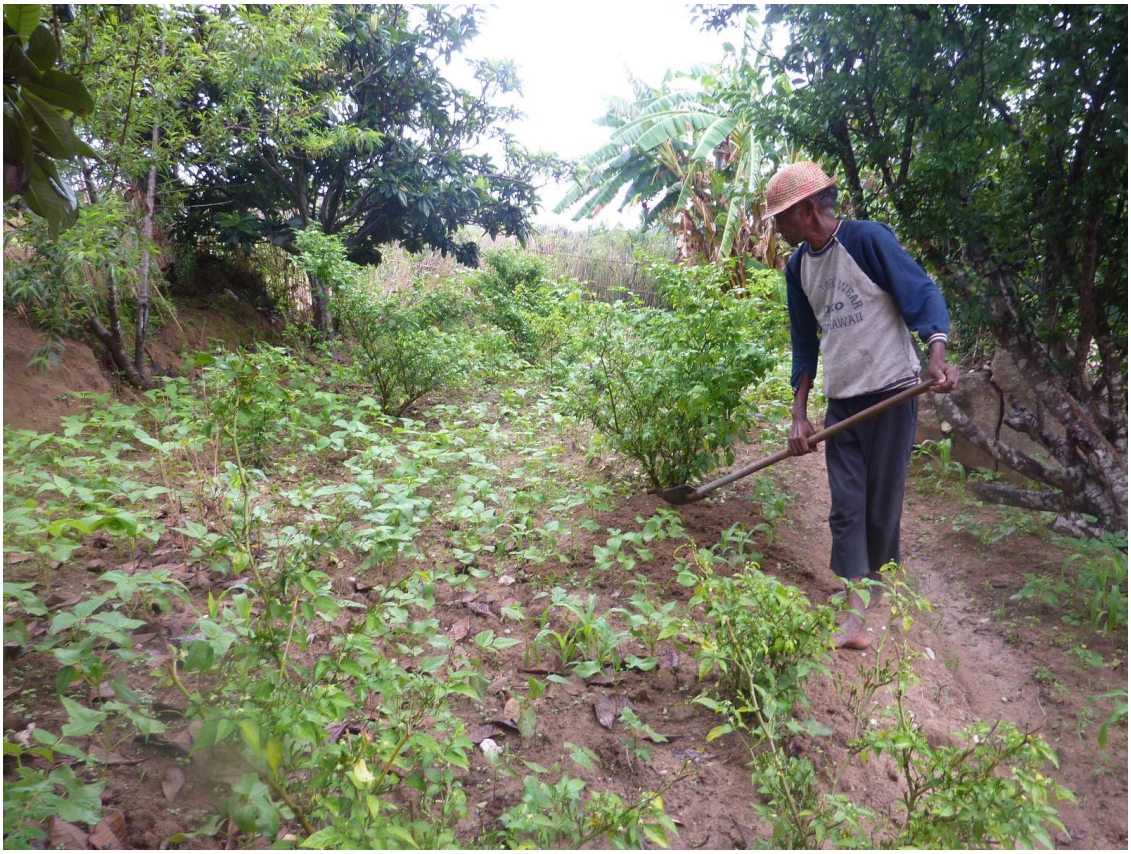
Agroforestry support

Although not an activity of SFC II technicians carried on supporting farmers with their agroforestry which was started during SFC I. They continued to train and assisted households in adapted techniques according to household's selected crops and growing opportunities. These vary with house hold preferences and differing growing conditions. Many new agroforestry crop associations were adopted. The full benefits are still not realized as most trees are still year old saplings.

Table 7. Principle beneficial tree/crop combinations selected and tried per region

CFM	Tree/plant species	Associated crop species
Avotra /Analanapela	Inga, coffee, papaya	Beans, maize peanuts
Soamiaradia/Antanifotsy	Inga, coffee, albizia	Beans, peanuts
Maitsovolo/Faliarivo	Citrus, coffee, banana	Beans peanuts
Fandresena/Ambohipo	Coffee, peach, chili	Beans, maize
Mahaimiray/Mahavanona	Inga, tamarind, coffee	-
Soahotanyeraka/Ifasina	Inga, acacia	Maize, pumpkins, courgette
FanavaozanaI/tremo	Inga, albizia, tamarind, acacia, moringa, citrus.	Manioc, beans, mixed vegitables

All associated trees introduce, to varying degrees, ecology improving properties such as:-
rapid growth, shade, mulch, fruit, increased soil fertility, nitrogen fixing, coppicing for firewood, soil protection/erosion control, natural species habitat, pest control, carbon sequestering, micro climate stability. The benefits of these trees will be reaped in 3 to 8 years as they mature and develop these properties.



Ravelo intercropping beans and chilies amongst fruit trees

Chili and Coffee

Rasolo wearing a "Free your mind" Bob Marley T-shirt in his peanut, maize and coffee field, bordering the Tapia forest and within the fire barrier.

Bean Cultivation

So far 190 of the 290 households have been surveyed and verified. The production level is about 3 times more than the seed planted. With 662.6 kg of seed, 2414.22 kilograms of beans were harvested. This is not a high return but farmers are not despondent and consider it an adequate and increased level of production relative to the poor soil quality and the adverse growing conditions this year. There was a drought following planting and floods during the two week flowering period. There were also outbreaks of disease known locally as *Mandazo,* which the project is researching in the hope of combating in the future.

Bedroom bean store ……and potatoes under the bed

Table 8. Bean cultivation and harvest surveyed to date

CFMs	Number of households surveyed	Quantity of seeds Kg	Area cultivated in Ares	Harvest Kg	Retained for seed Kg	Sold Kg	Consummed Kg
Alamandroso /Antapia	13 sur 13	57	84	165,67	87,10	8,57	70
Avotra /Analanapela	19 sur 19	90	196	264,67	125,71	27,14	123,14
Soamiaradia/Antanifotsy	22 sur 28	76,28	157,2	328,28	238,57	12,85	85,42
Maitsovolo/Faliarivo	14 sur 28	43,42	60	105,71	55,13	00	50,57
Miaradia/Isandra	21 sur 41	67,71	157,2	67,71	82	8,57	103,42
Lovasoa/Fandrainjato	28 sur 44	68,85	117	158	90,28	00	68,85
Fiombonana/Ambohimanjaka	22 sur 66	49,42	89	179,14	49,71	2,85	126,57
Fandresena/Ambohipo	51sur 51	210	316	997,71	517,42	58,1	422,10
TOTAL =	190 sur 290	662,68	1140,2	2414,22	1245,92	118,08	1050,15

The peanut and upland rice harvests have been surveyed and look promising in all areas, but still need to be verified.

5. Prepare a business plan for the public awareness activities of the Treemad Forest Centre

Preliminary studies and enquiries have been made by the team and the next step is to prepare the terms of reference for a more detailed feasibility study to inform the business plan. Monitoring the evolution of the other activities of this project serves as the core research for identifying the focus activities of the Treemad Forest Centre. The feasibility study must determine the economic viability and sustainability of such a centre. The team has identified possible locations and is investigating potential of renting or purchasing land. The locations are along the main road where it is easy for people to visit and which may be able to earn income from passing tourists.

6. Community tree planting

Planting out of seedlings for forest restoration (Tapia) and utility plantations (Eucalyptus)

The project gave technical support to the planning and execution of the community activities involved in tree-planting. This included identifying the best location and period for planting, the arrangement, digging and preparation of the holes, VAM, the planting out, the watering and weeding of seedlings. These activities require coordinated labour and require participation by as many individuals as possible. On average 40 households per CFM might participate. The CFM officers and nurserymen are responsible for motivating and mobilizing their members to participate. Note that FBM / NT deliberately refrain from intervening in this process. This community labour represents the commitment of the community to the strategy and objectives of the project. The evolution of a community's dedication to planting trees without pressure from a third party is key to the sustainability of the project's results and outcome.
Typically this community work is carried out on Thursdays. It is taboo in the region of Amoron'i Mania to work in the crop fields on Thursday. For CFMs planting large amounts they may dedicate a whole week to the transplanting. Participation is a major commitment and decisions are made weighing up benefits against going to market, farm work, paid work or rest.
Whilst there is no doubt these activities are perceived as hard work and time consuming they are also enjoyed as a social event and not generally resented as the benefits brought by the project and the long-term advantage of the forest cover are appreciated.

Tapia planting and forest restoration

Of the 45,790 surviving saplings in the 20 participating CFM tree nurseries 38,938 were planted out, ie 85%. We consider this a high result in terms of total trees planted but we must pay attention to the level of participation by each CFM and its members. 7 of the CFMs were very successful in mobilising members and they planted out 100%, or just less, of a good quantity of nursery stock. Of the 4 with poor results 2 were due to lack of organisation by the CFM officers and 2 due to the change of nurserymen who had still not mastered their tasks. Stock that remains and survives in the nurseries will be kept until next year's planting season. As reported in Activity 3., **158 hectares** of natural forest have been restored so far.

Eucalyptus planting

Similar to the Tapia planting, 82% of the nursery stock was planted out. There were similar trends amongst CFMs regarding levels of organisation and motivation. Though for many CFMs not much labour was required due to the low quantities of seedlings produced for transplanting.
In total 11,498 trees were planted out this year. 23% of the 50,000 target.

Table 9. Results of reforestation planting and restoration

VOI et localité	**Tapia**	**Eucalyptus**
ALAMANDROSO Antapia	960	-
AVOTRA Analanapela	1225	-
SOAMIARADIA Antanifotsy	2361	102
MAITSOVOLO Faliarivo	856	86
MIARADIA Isandra	1720	209
LOVASOA Fandrainjato	2500	-
FIOMBONANA Ambohimanjaka	3304	120
FANDRESENA Ambohipo	2006	111
TANTSAHAMIANALA Ivary	800	-
FIRAISANKINA Vinany	-	-
SOAMANDROSO Andraikita	4600	3990
MAHAIMIRAY Mahavanona	4185	2500
MANIRISOA Riandampona	4180	480
MITSINJOSOA Ambatoharanana	-	-
FITAMIHALA Andrahalana	150	-
FANILO Ambalamarina	172	-
LOVASOA AVOTRA Marovoalavo	3600	-
TARATRA Ambohimanandriana	1519	2000
TSARAHASINA Ambatomenaloha	-	-
FANAVAOZANA Itremo	2900	900
SOAHOTANTERAKA Ifasina	1900	1000
TOTAL	**38938**	**11498**

Financial Summary

Expenditure for period **1st June 2015 to 31st May 2016**

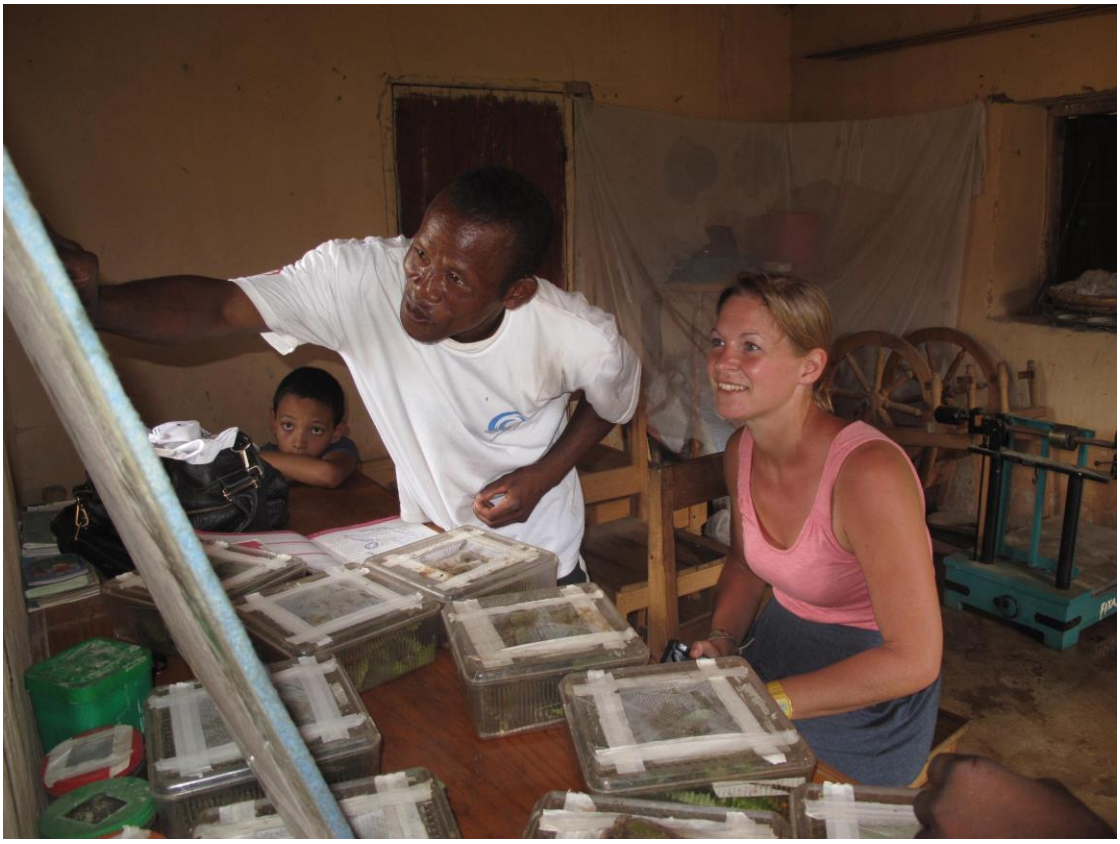
	Expenditure	Budget	Variance
Salaries	6,842	8,000	-1,158
Monitoring and Evaluation, Travel	1,282	1,400	-118
Activities	6,167	6,750	-583
Direct overhead costs	3,297	1,850	+1447
TOTAL	**17,588**	**18,000**	**-412**

FBM/NT received from JWT a budget of £18,000 for year one. Allocations were made against the total two year budget of £36,000 divided by two, as above. The "underspend" in salaries is provision for year 2. This will cater for inflation and increased staff hours on activity 5., The Treemad Forest Centre business plan. There will be less overhead costs attributed to the JWT budget in year 2.

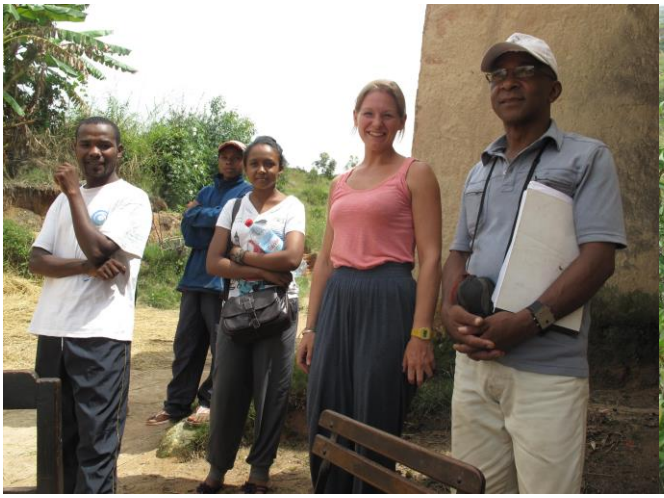
Kathryn's Monitoring Visit

In March the team enjoyed the monitoring visit of Kathryn Harrison. They visited two communities and the staff and villagers were proud to show the results of their activities and share information. All staff, but especially the technicians living in the villages, benefited from discussing their work, successes and problems, with Kathryn, as a representative of the donor partner but also as someone with experience of development work elsewhere in Madagascar. The CFM members, the villagers, were impressed and they expressed how honoured they were by Kathryn's visit and relished the opportunity to thank her for JWT's enormous contribution to their lives.

Monitoring and being monitored



Kathryn with Andre in his silk worm rearing centre and bedroom



Team members and Eugenie's daughter Tania

Silk worm hunting

Conclusion

The majority of CFM members and the project team are predominantly satisfied with the progress of SFCII activities in year one. The working collaboration between CFMs and the project is for the main strong and productive. This is reflected in the increasing number of participating members and their enthusiastic commitment to the community tasks of nursery management, tree planting, fire barriers and irrigation canals. There are only 3 out of the 21 CFMs who have participated in only some but not all activities, as highlighted in this report.

Challenges to be addressed next year include 1) leadership and organizational support of weaker CFM committees, 2) the procurement and processing of better quality Eucalyptus seeds. 3) ensuring all JWT trustees and friends find a way of coming to Madagascar, to see, and eat the fruits of their hard work, enthusiasm and kindness.

The second project year will continue to develop and improve each activity and will also be devoted to the Treemad Forest Centre business plan and the dissemination of project lessons learnt.

Thank you Jo Walters Trust