



CPALI/SEPALI NEWSLETTER
November 2010

WELCOME TO SEPALI/CPALI WILDSILK PRODUCER



Mamy Ratsimbazafy
SEPALI/CPALI Country Director

Letter from the Country Director:

Dear friends and partnerships, I'm glad to inform you that your participation to this project during 2010 allows us to improve our activities. Helping CPALI/SEPALI Madagascar means offers a new way to alleviate the communities poverty in Makira protected area. This project links the local communities development and conservation. I wish that your support (financially, morally ...) will continue for the coming years . I would like to remind you that CPALI/SEPALI is the only development project

working in the poor communities closest to Makira protected area. Now, it's a pleasure for me to inform you that 106 farmers are joining to our program, more than 12000 trees were already planted in the field and more than 20.000 seedlings are still in the nurseries. This year, 7 farmers are able to start raising the silkmoths and produce silk from *Antherina suraka* (our first specie). I hope that 2011 will be a very good year of *suraka* cocoon production, also I'm happy to inform you that CPALI team is ready to introduce our second specie of silkmoth : *Argema mitrei* to the communities in 2011.

Summaries of the SEPALI/CPALI activities during

1- Creation of environmental associations

Since January 2010, 5 associations of farmers have been created in the local communities. The team has developed a good communication with farmers. Now, the number of interested farmers is still increasing. On September 2010, 106 farmers joined the project and started to set up their own nursery.

2- Vote of 5 farmers leaders:

In July 2010, SEPALI/CPALI sensitized the 106 interested farmers in each village to vote one leader to represent his group and also to ensure the relationship between farmers and the project leader. The leaders help us to update each farmer's activity every month.



Bernard Rakotorisoa:
President of TMA association in Ambodivoangy



Henri MANI:
President of FTFA association in Ambodivoangy

Map of SEPALI/CPALI places of work



Ramananjato vo Simon:
President of TFA in Marovovonan



Celine:
President of FTTEA in Ambalamahogo



Rafanoely:
President of Ambinanitelo silk producer in Ambinanitelo



Map of Madagascar

How to get to each village?

First the team rides bicycle to get to the public boat station in 8 kilometers from Maroantsetra, then we take a public pirogue. The trip to the first village (Ambinanitelo) takes 2 hours and a half. To get to the next village, we walk for 1 hour in the muddy truck to get to Ambalamahogo. To get to Marovovonana and Ambodivoangy, we have two choices, one is to walk during 2 hours in a muddy truck, through the rice field and across

Pictures of the seven suraka breeders:

3- The cocoon production in Ambodivoangy:

Ambodivoangy is the first village where SEPALI/CPALI found his first interested farmers. Since November 2010, 7 farmer-breeders have started to rear **suraka** larvae. On August 2010, CPALI distributed 10 rearing nets and spinning baskets to each breeder to get them achieving their first rearing generation. Those breeders have planted their trees 2 years ago.

						
Jaonary Jean , 2 hectares of land, 1500 planted trees.	Marivelo , Half hectare of land 300 trees	Bernard , 4 hectares of land, 1500 trees	Pierrette , 1 hectare of land, 550 trees	Raso , 2 hectares of land, 500 trees	Rafanoely , 1 hectare of land, 500 trees	Marie Jeanne , Half hectare of land, 300 trees



Adult of suraka

Antherina suraka, family of SATURNIDAE has been ready to be introduced to the local communities since January 2009. CPALI has provided several trainings to those farmers. The first training focused on the food-plant farming methods and the second training focused on the rearing methods. This year, CPALI has 6 breeders in Ambodivoangy and 1 in Ambinanitelo, 5150 talandoha trees will be used to feed suraka larvae, 11 hectares of land have been recovered by suraka food plant on 2010 (Talandoha)

4- The nursery setting up :

January 2010, CPALI /SEPALI began to sensitize the farmers in several communities and set up the farmers network. Then 2 new associations have been created: FTFA in Ambodivoangy, and The Ambinanitelo silk producer in Ambinanitelo. 3 old associations have been reorganized. Currently, 3 associations has built their own nursery, and 2 associations are still finding their nursery place. CPALI team sensitized each association to set up their own nursery that they will take care one day a week. Each nursery contained a multiple species of food-plant trees and also several species of plant that the farmers need. CPALI/SEPALI provided seeds and seedlings to the first 60 farmers joining to the program.



Nursery plant of TMA Ambodivoangy

TMA association in Ambodivoangy was created in 2004, by wildlife Conservation Society. It has 13 members. The age of the members is between 30 to 60 years, 10 women and 3 men. This association is recognized by the state. All the members are farmers. TMA began to work with CPALI on August 2008. They work on their nursery every Thursday afternoon according CPALI instruction. In addition of the silkmoths food-plant, TMA has several species of plant in their nursery: Clouves, Robusta coffee, hintsia bijuga (for construction). All TMA members will be able to produce suraka silk on 2011.



Nursery plant of FTTEA Ambalamahogo

FTTEA association in Ambalamahogo has 22 members. The age of the member is between 22 to 60 years. There are 7 men and 15 women. After setting up 5000 seedlings of Talandoha (suraka food-plant), this association started to add their species with clouves, coffee, Ravenala (for construction) and the rose wood (for construction), wild fruits. This association will transplant their seedling in the field on January 2011.



CPALI breeding house in Manambia

On 2010, CPALI built his own breeding house in Manambia demonstration site. This center will be used for the training. The breeding house allows CPALI to produce enough eggs to our farmers. Providing eggs to the farmer-breeders is one important role of CPALI/SEPALI on 2011. During 2010, Manambia site produced half of the cocoons that CPALI used for the workshop.



Samuel from FTTEA, happy to see his favorite endemic tree growing with the food-plants. He uses this specie to make a mats, hats,

5- The workshop:

CPALI organized a second workshop on June 2010 in Maroantsetra demonstration site. 4000 cocoons of *suraka* have been used for the workshop. Those cocoons are produced by CPALI team. CPALI's work is not only to sensitize farmers to produce cocoons but also to create a new design and commercial product of wild silk. CPALI has created an artist group to work on the textiles.



Mario and Bertrand cleaning the cocoons



Group of artists who participated to the workshop with the textile.

We are separating the grade A cocoons and the grade B cocoons. CPALI's goal is to teach farmers about how to produce a grade A cocoon. The cocoons collected in the field look very bad and impossible to use for making product. The cocoon of *suraka* has 5 kinds of color, the color of the cocoons depends on the rearing method. Before making product from *suraka* cocoons, different treatments must be done: Cleaning, washing, drying.



five colors of suraka cocoon

CPALI/SEPALI organized one workshop on 2009 and one workshop on June 2010. During this year, 5 artists participated to the workshop, most of those artists came from the communities where CPALI are working.



Table cloth, (1meter by half) natural color, hand-made, sewed with wildsilk thread

samples of the products from *suraka* cocoon:

After producing the cocoons, CPALI must find out the technical method to make products with the wildsilk. CPALI's goal is to create a new design that people can make using a chipper materials



textile with square design: Sewed with a transparent thread using the sewing machine.



the flower: Hand-made, natural color



hand-made table cloth

6- The environmental education and school program

Since 2007, CPALI have been provided an environmental and ecological trainings at the elementary schools in the District of Maroantsetra. This program has been organized in collaboration with the American peace-corps. The political situation in Madagascar on 2009 avoid the peace-corps to work in the country, so CPALI is continuing to improve the school program by itself.



RAMASY Denis (Cpali), explaining the moths life cycle at the elementary school in Ambalamahogo (April 2010.)



wildsilk training of the Communities decision-makers (June 2010 in Ambodivoanenv)



The yearly best pupils selected from 20 elementary schools in Maroantsetra were visiting CPALI demonstration site (October 2010).



wildsilk training of the Wildlife Conservation Society's field assistants in CPALI's demonstration site (January 2010)

- The school program:

Every year, Cpali offers his demonstration sites in Maroantsetra and Manambia to give understanding to the students about the importance of preventing the biodiversity and talking about the advantages of the wildsilk rearing.

In the 4 communities where CPALI is working, our team has developed a very good relation with the students and school officers.

- the wildsilk training:

several levels in the local communities have been trained by CPALI during 2010. All participants were agreed that the wildsilk production is really a new livelihood for the poor communities. Those trainings made easy our sensitization program in the communities.

CPALI/SEPALI goals for 2011

Goal 1: To get the seven farmer-breeders to produce more than the minimal quantity (3kilograms/year) required by CPALI:

In 2011, their trees have 2 years, each tree will be enough to feed 50 larvae, 3 kg of cocoons per year can be produced by one farmer using 250 trees.

Goal 2: To sensitize all farmers to intercrop their food-plant garden with the plant species recommended by CPALI:

To avoid the monoculture, all interested farmers must intercrop their garden with another species. In 2010, CPALI made a list of plant species that farmers can farm with the food-plants. On 2011, CPALI must figure out how to get help to provide seeds to the farmers.

Goal 3: To produce enough cocoons to allow CPALI doing a workshop every 3 months:

On 2011, CPALI plans to do 4 workshops. Each workshop will need at least 4000 cocoons. Hopefully, 7 farmers will contribute to produce cocoons in addition of Cpali breeder center . Each workshop needs 5 artists and 10 days work.

Goal 4: To get 99 farmers to start rearing *Antherina suraka* on November 2011:

Currently, those 99 farmers are starting to farm the Talandoha tree (*suraka* food-plant) in their lands. All trees planted on January will be ready to feed 10 larvae by November. The first rearing is considered as a trail period.

This program needs a big spending to provide rearing nets and spinning baskets to each farmers.

Goal 5: To get 300 farmers join the project by December 2011:

Currently, CPALI has 106 farmers, during 2011, we must work very hard to persuade 194 new farmers joining CPALI wild silk program.

Goal 6: Identify the comet moth (*Argema mitrei*) food-plant and introduce the program of Argema cocoon production in the local communities:

Dear colleagues and
partnerships,

CPALI/SEPALI team in
Madagascar wish you a merry
Christmas 2010 and best wishes
for the new year 2011.

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