

## SEPALI NEWS FROM THE MONTH OF JULY: FIELD AND OFFICE

16<sup>th</sup> Edition

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**Organization of Silk Producers**

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English

### MAROANTSETRA NEWS :



*Farmer leaders and presidents  
of the each village*

On July 3<sup>rd</sup>, SEPALI hosted a meeting with the lead farmers and the presidents of each village where SEPALI works. During the meeting, participants discussed the best strategies for working with each community and how to motivate the farmers working with the project. The presidents of each village agreed to work with SEPALI to spread awareness about the program.

With the lead farmers, much of the meeting was focused on the monthly report that each leader is responsible for submitting to SEPALI each month. The format of the report was revised during the meeting and each leader will be required to submit this report in order to receive their pay check each month.



*SEPALI meeting- July 7th*

From the 9<sup>th</sup> to the 13<sup>th</sup>, SEPALI hosted another textile workshop with the Anjarasoa women's group from Ambodivoangy. The 5 women stayed in Maroantsetra for 5 days to produce the textile and learned quickly. After only one day of training, the women were already getting the hang of it and producing a high quality product. Over the course of 5 days, the women were able to produce over 6 meters of textile.



*ANJARASOA women*

The new natural (irregular) design is more time consuming to produce, but results in a beautiful product. Instead of cutting each cocoon into a square, the cocoons retain their natural shape and each woman sews around the cocoons. The SEPALI staff are very satisfied with the progress of the women's groups in learning this complicated new technique.



*Textile that they finished*

### PRESIDENTS OF EACH VILLAGE WITH SEPALI

- 1-Jules Sylvain (Ambalamahogo)
- 2-Rakotondramiadana (Antoraka)
- 3-Ratsiahiana Marcel (Ambinanitelo)
- 4-Rakotomalala René (Ambodivoangy)

### THE 5 WOMEN FROM THE TEXTILE WORKSHOP

- 1-Raso (filoha)
- 2- Odette(filoha mpanampy)
- 3- Celestine
- 4- Marivelo
- 5- Bernadette

### NEW NETS FOR SEPALI

Over the last two months, Mamy and Lalaina have been hard at work preparing the paperwork to accept a net donation from Tanzania. SEPALI extends its sincere thanks to the net producers for the generous donation. The nets are very important for the rearing and the import process was very educational for the SEPALI staff. One of the steps involved in the process was to set up an enterprise status for SEPALI. This new status, prepared by our SEPALI contact in Antananarivo, will allow us to import materials in the future.

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## Report from the field

All SEPALI team members brought good news home this month. On each mission, the team spread awareness to new communities about the SEPALI program, found new members, developed solutions for reoccurring problems, and gave assistance to farmers interested in starting the rearing process.



*Meeting with the villagers*

In Marovovonana, which also requested further training, SEPALI staff offered a training session and provided more equipment to farmers who are already rearing larvae. Ambodimangatelo farmers will work on transplanting their mature tree nurseries to their land over the coming months. Rastafanoel, the current leader, requested an official election to determine the president and officers of the group.



*Training in Marovovonana*



**GONY VICTOR**

*Preparing his tree nursery*

Our second mission of the month was to Mahalevona from the 23<sup>rd</sup> to the 26<sup>th</sup>. Here, we found a very enthusiastic new group that continues to grow by the day. All of the group members who received plastic planting pots last month finished filling their pots with soil and were ready and waiting for seedlings. SEPALI had to bring seedlings in two sets because the new members had already run out of seedlings by the afternoon of the first day. One farmer from the village volunteered to travel back to the SEPALI office (a three hour trip) and bring the next round of seedlings.

By the end of the mission, all members who had previously received pots had finished planting all of their seedlings and build their tree nurseries. In addition to the first group members, SEPALI attracted 17 new members and received invitations from 2 surrounding communities to start farmer groups in those towns. During the next mission, the SEPALI team will need to bring at least 4,750 seedlings to satisfy the town's needs.



*Presenting the SEPALI program to Mahalevona Sud*

## THE NEW MEMBERS

### AMBOHISOA:

- 1-Thomas II
  - 2-Vazara
  - 3-Odia Francline
- ### AMBATOFOTSY
- 1-O Avy Givence
  - 2-Etienne Rosa
  - 3-Falashinois
  - 4-Zaka Zafy Armand
  - 5-Soanette
  - 6-Marie Laurence
  - 7-Razanamino Josephine
- ### MAHALEVONA
- 1-Albert Zamanizono
  - 2-Botra Jean Proser
  - 3-Bera Clovien
  - 4-Augustin Joseph
  - 5-Felicien
  - 6-Kalozandry Edmondine
  - 7-Kalovary Therese
  - 8-Marx Max Albert
  - 9-Toto Simon
  - 10-Toto Jean
  - 11-Soanirina Jean
  - 12-Tyde Laurent

## OTHER NEWS

After preparing a grant proposal to IDEA WILD this year, Mamy and Kerry received news last month that SEPALI has been awarded a brand new computer projector. The projector, arriving earlier this month, will be extremely useful for farmer meetings and trainings, which have far outgrown the small computer screen the team has been using to aid in presentations. In the coming months, the SEPALI team is thinking of requesting other equipment items from IDEA WILD as well.