

DISTRIBUTION OF FOOD AND 2200 CUPS OF MAIZE SEEDS TO CULTIVATE TO MORE THAN 2000 VULNERABLE PEOPLES AROUND THE NAP VOHIDAVA BETSIMALAHO IN THE SOUTHWEST OF MADAGASCAR (FEBRUARY 2022)



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1) INTRODUCTION

The New Protect Area Vohidava Betsimalaho is located in southwestern of Madagascar, Region Anosy and district of Amboasary-south. . He is surrounded by fourth commune (Tsivory, Ranobe, Marotsiraka and Mahaly). We can reach the NAP 35 to 40 kilometer to commune Tsivory. With his dry spiny thicket, this protect area is dominated by the sub-arid climate with an average annual fall 986 mm between 1981 and 2017. The dense spiny thicket reminded intact for many years because the locale population around use the forest to hide their cattle from rustlers and they still respect some tabou in their forest until now. The main activity of locale population around the NAP is cattle breeding (Zebu, Got, sheep) and cultivation (Maize, Manioc, ...etc). But recently, approximatively two years ago (2020), the life of population was affected by the climate change because of the rarefication of the rain who become more and more deficiency and cause the kere in this part of Madagascar. Actually, the local population around the NAP cannot have any production from their field of cultivation to eat like the have before. Without the help of the WFP (World Food Programm) in this part of Madagascar who distributed some kind of food, the population was surely migrated in other region. To take part for helping the people around the NAP, MBG (Missouri Botanical Garden) the current management of the site was lucky this year for having a founding from the contribution of some German students and some German people. The aim for the contribution founding was to help people by buying and disturbing some kind of the food to the local population who are touched by the kere around the site. That why in February our team (Staff Vohidava-Betsimalaho) had made a distribution of some kind of food in many villages around the NAP Vohidava-Betsimalaho and some seeds of Maize to cultivate.

2) METHODOLOGY FOR DISTRIBUTING THE FOOD AID AND THE SEEDS OF THE MAIZE TO THE VILLAGERS (11 VOI) AROUND THE NAP VOHIDAVA-BETSIMALAHO

2.1) CHARACTERISTIC OF THE PERSONNES CHOSED FOR THE HELP.

After analyzing what the WFP disturbing to local population and how the doing the distribution, our team took the decision to identified only the vulnerable person to benefit ours. We took that decision because we observed that all the population have already many kinds of food from WFP. The WFP probably distribute the food by household (family) but the portion that one family have is the same even they have many children. We observed too that they don't give some particularity to the old people. Because of all of those observation, our team had conducted some investigation to identified the person that we considered vulnerable. Here below the characteristic of the person that we classified as vulnerable:

- Old woman who has no one to take care about her
- Old man who has no one to take care about him
- Children less than one year (1 year)
- Pregnant woman
- Family (Mother and father together) with 8 children or more
- One woman (don't have any man to help her) who have 4 children or more
- Person handicapped

2.2) THE PLACE FOR THE DISTRIBUTION

The NAP Vohidava-Betsimalaho have 11 association who are dispersing around the forest and in the forest. To facilitate the distribution of the food and the seeds of the Maize, we have selected one center village to the four commune and the villager can choose which village the prefer to have their Maize and their food. In the following table is the details about the village that we have realized the distribution:

COMMUNES	VOI	VILLAGE FOR THE DISTRIBUTION
MAHALY	MAHAZOARIVO	DABOLAVA
	DABOLAVA	
	BESAKOA AMBONY	
	BESAKOA AMBANY	
RANOBE	BETSINGILO	
	BETIOKY	
	SAHANANDRA	
MAROTSIRAKA	ASONJO	
	BESAVOA	
	BEFIHAMY	
TSIVORY	MANADIMA	TSIVORY

Table 1 : Village of distribution for each VOI

3) THE QUANTITIES AND THE TYPES OF FOOD DISTRIBUTED TO THE LOCAL POPULATION IN THE NAP AND THE NUMBER OF THE PERSONNE BENEFICIARY THE HELP

3.1) QUANTITIES AND THE TYPES OF THE FOOD DISTRIBUTED TO THE LOCAL POPULATION

Before we bought the food for the local population, we have conducted some investigation to know what food the WFP give to the local population to finally choose the best type of food that we should distributed to them. As WFP distributed every month some quantities of rice, oils, dry pie, plumpy for the children, Maize powder for the pregnant woman. To give some variety of the food that the population eat every day and to enrich the diet in nutriment, we have selected three qualities of the food that we though interesting and appreciate by the local population. here below are the three types of the food and their quantities that we have given to the local population:

TYPES OF FOOD	QUANTITY	ADDITIUONNAL INFORMATION	QUANTITY BY VOI
MILK POWDER	46 BOX	One box has 100 bags of 25 g Milk powder	4 BOX/ VOI
MAIZE POWDER	35 SACS	One sac has 80 bags of 400 g of Maize powder	3 SACS/ VOI
DRY MANIOC	138 SACS	One sac has 35 kilos of dry Manioc	12 SACS /VOI

Table 2 : Types of the food and the quantity that we distributed to the 11 VOI present in the NAP Vohidava-Betsimalaho

NB: some of the sacs of dry Manioc and Maize powder and the box of the Milk powder was dedicated to the leader of the villages and communes like the mayor of the communes and the president of Fokontany.

3.2) THE NUMBER OF THE LOCAL POPULATION BENFEICIARY FOR THE HELP

After the inquiry that our staff local have done to the 11 VOI to identified the vulnerable person, we have had the number of all the person classified vulnerable. Here in the table below the detail of their number:

COMMUNE	VOI	PREGENANT WOMAN	CHILDREN LESS THAN 1 OR 1 YEAR OLD (≤ 1 year)	OLD WOMAN AND MAN DON'T HAVE ANY PERSON	HANDICAPPED PERSON	FAMILY MORE THAN 8 CHILDREN (≥ 8)	ONE WOMAN WITH MORE THAN FOR CHCHILDREN (≥ 4)
MAROTSIRAKA	BEFIHAMY	32	86	62	21	36	23
	BESAVOA	20	54	45	11	10	23
	ANTSONJO	13	28	27	9	8	22
Sous total		65	168	134	41	54	68
RANOBE	BETIOKY	6	6	15		18	13
	SAHANANDRA	8	33	22		32	10
	BETSINGILO	18	29	32	3	28	18
Sous total		32	68	69	3	78	41
TSIVORY	MANANDIMA	16	21	9	3	12	2
Sous total		16	21	9	3	12	2
MAHALY	MAHAZOARIVO	36	11	21	24	21	10
	ANADABOLAVA					21	40
	BESAKOA AMBONY	6	13	22	12	25	23
	BESAKOA AMBANY	3	5	14	6	32	45
Sous total		45	29	57	42	99	118
TOTAL		158	286	269	89	243	229
NUMBER OF ALL V.PERSON		1274					

Table 3 : Number of the vulnerable person in the 11 VOI around the NAP Vohidava-Betsimalaho that should beneficiate the food help.

In total we had 1274 vulnerable person for which 158 pregnant woman, 286 children less than or one year old, 269 old woman and man who do not have any person to take care about, 89 handicapped person, 248 family that have 8 or more than 8 children and 229 one woman who have 4 or more than 4 children.

NB: During the distribution of the food. Before we distributed the food, we had a discussion with the leader of the VOI for how we are going to do the distribution because after checking the list that the gave to us, we noticed that many people should not be in the list. And

after our conversation because the leader has convinced us by the word **Valala iray hifanapahana**" I have only one cricket but I will break it in half to share" we decided to let the leader to ensure the distribution because they used to share between them everything that person give to them especially the food.



Photo 1 : Discussion with the leader of VOI (President of fokontany and president of VOI in the commune Mahaly and Ranobe) before the distribution

Each leader of 11 VOI divided their part (4 box of milk powder, 3 sacs of Maize powder, 12 sacs of dry Manioc) by clan. And the clan share each other family by family.



Photo 2 : VOI of Besakoa Ambany doing their distribution by family

REMARK: We remarked during the distribution that the villagers were happy to have the food especially the dry manioc, and the distribution was really well done by the leader of VOI and we did not notice any problem like dispute between them

3.3) DISTRIBUTION OF THE MAIZE SEEDS

The biggest problem that the villager faced today is the lack of seed to cultivate. if by chance there will be some rain to fall this year, they will not have no seeds to cultivate. Because of those reason, we have used the rest of the found to buy some of seed of the Maize and distribute them to the 11 VOI that the NAP has. in total we bought 2300 cups of Maize seeds et we gave 200 cups of each VOI. Hereafter in the table the resume of it:

COMMUNES	VOI	NUMBER CUPS OF THE SEEDS OF MAIZE/VOI
MAHALY	MAHAZOARIVO	200
	DABOLAVA	200
	BESAKOA AMBANY	200
	BESAKOA AMBONY	200
TSIVORY	MANANDIMA	200
RANOBE	BETSINGILO	200
	BETIOKY	200
	SAHANANDRA	200
MAROTSIRAKA	ASONJO	200
	BESAVOA	200
	BEFIHAMY	200
TOTAL	11 VOI	2200

Tableau 4 : number cups of Maize seeds by VOI

Most of the VOI have cultivated directly their seeds after our distribution of the seeds. And because of the passage of the two cyclones in the region Anosy this month (February 2022) some rain was fallen around the 4 communes. During our visit in one of the 11 VOI, we visited the place where the planted their seeds. And we observed that some of seeds of the Maize that the have planted have already growing.



Photo 3 : Seeds of Maize of the Mahazoarivo VOI growing after some days of plantation

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