



SUPPORTING CHILDREN'S LEARNING IN MADAGASCAR



REPORT 2018

WWW.BOKYMAMIKO.COM
BOKYMAMIKO@GMAIL.COM

THE BOKY MAMIKO PROJECT



Boky Mamiko is a **partnership** founded in 2018 between a group of **students and researchers from the University of Zurich**, Switzerland, and **École Mamiko**, a kindergarten and primary school of about 150 students in **Djangoa**, a village in a rural area of **North Madagascar**.

The project was inspired by the desire to make children love reading, in the belief that reading is the key to stimulate their desire to learn and to aspire to a better future. "**Boky Mamiko**" means "**Books, my love!**" in Malagasy.

Children and their families in Djangoa live in poverty and precarious living conditions. Although most families aspire to a good education for their children, they have very limited means to support their children's education. We work to support the **children's learning opportunities** at École Mamiko, and give them higher chances of escaping poverty in their future.

WHAT WE DO: BOOKS



Access to books in rural Madagascar is **extremely limited and expensive**. Families generally do not own books. Until our support, École Mamiko owned just a limited number of textbooks and a few story books, in itself a rarity in rural Madagascar.

We created a school library for École Mamiko with **more than 600 children's books in French and Malagasy** (the two official languages of Madagascar). We carefully read every book to make sure they are **appropriate for Malagasy children**. This means the children can understand, relate to, and enjoy the books they read.

We also selected a few **preferred books** and bought **multiple copies** of each one, so that teachers can read and use those books in the classrooms.

Next steps: We continue selecting books that are particularly relevant for Malagasy children. Special focus will be put on books about girls' education and environment protection. Furthermore, we will provide the kindergarten with educational toys to stimulate early education and French language skills.

WHAT WE DO: VOLUNTEER TEACHING



Between June and September, our **teaching volunteers** spent about two months in **Djangoa**, giving French reading and writing afternoon support classes, reading books to children in the library, and running a camp with creative and sport activities during the school holidays (August and September).

The presence of the teaching volunteers was greatly appreciated by the children, the teachers and the whole community. More than 80 children turned up every day during the camp!

Next steps: We are currently organizing the **volunteer teaching program for summer 2019**. Volunteers will focus on strengthening the children's **French** skills and teaching them environmental science and the importance of **protecting the environment**.

WHAT WE DO: CREATING EMPLOYMENT



As École Mamiko started a **secondary school** (grades 6 and 7) in November 2018, we support the school by paying the salaries of the five secondary school teachers.

Moreover, our volunteers trained a local woman to work as a **librarian** in the Boky Mamiko library throughout the school year. Now that our volunteers are back in Europe, she keeps the library open and reads stories to students every day.

In addition, during the three months our volunteers stayed in Djangoa, a local woman was employed to run errands and **cook** delicious meals for our volunteers. The same woman is also employed to cook a nutritious daily snack for the children during the three “hard months” (January to March) of the rain season.

Overall, in 2018 Boky Mamiko paid **21 monthly salaries**.

Next steps: We will continue paying the salaries of the secondary school teachers, our librarian and the school cook, so as to guarantee continuity in the children’s education.

WHAT WE DO: SOLAR POWER



Thanks to the help of generous supporters, we could provide the school with some **solar panels**, a **pc**, a **printer**, and a **beamer**.

Next steps:

Since the school has no access to potable water, a **water well**, **solar powered water pump** and **water tank** are of greatest need. We are working with the school and a Malagasy Solar Engineer to determine how this can be engineered. We will then raise funds to pay for it.

Also, we will try to fund more **solar panels** which are needed to provide all classrooms with electricity.

We are also exploring the possibility of providing the school with a **solar cooker** to prepare meals for the students. This will also serve as a model for the community of an environmentally friendly alternative to cooking with charcoal which comes from cutting down the local trees.

WHAT WE DO: HEALTH AND NUTRITION



Thanks to the generosity of a Swiss toothbrush manufacturer, we distributed 200 toothbrushes and fluoride toothpaste to the children of École Mamiko and initiated a **dental health** educational program.

Next steps:

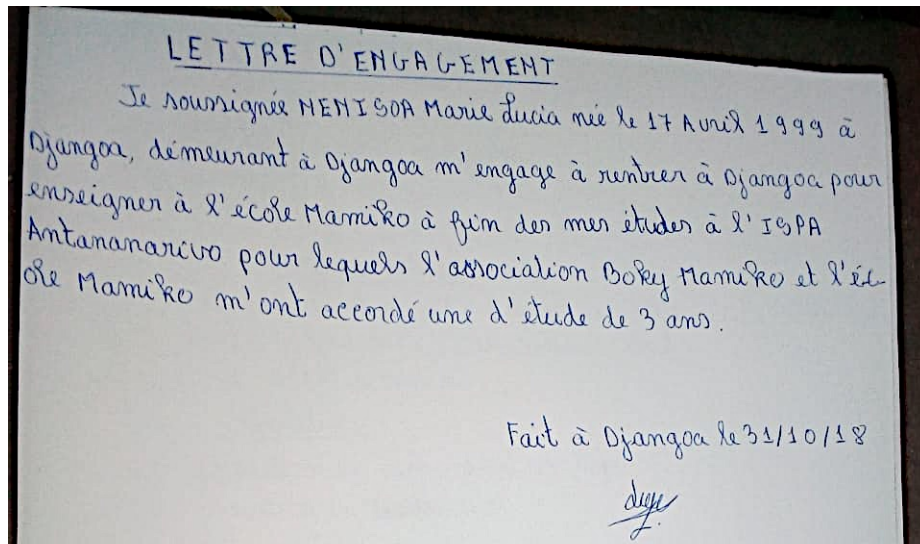
During the three “hard months” of the rain season (January to March), when many families do not have enough to eat, we will pay for the ingredients and the salary of a cook to prepare a **nutritious morning snack** for all students.

Early pregnancy rates in Madagascar are high (37% of girls between 15 and 19 years old are either pregnant or have at least one child). We are planning to support the school introducing a **sexual education program** for secondary school students.

As **access to sanitary pads** is difficult - causing many girls to miss several days of school each month during their period - we are exploring how to improve this situation.

WHAT WE DO:

TEACHER EDUCATION TRAINING SCHOLARSHIPS



In Madagascar only 17% of primary school teachers are trained to teach, negatively affecting the quality of primary education.

The lack of trained teachers is even more serious in rural Madagascar. Teacher Education academic training programs are only offered in Antananarivo, the capital city, and have a duration of three years. Most families in rural Madagascar cannot afford to pay for tuition fees and living expenses for such an extended period.

Thanks to the help of generous supporters, we could provide a **scholarship** to a 19-years old young woman from Djangoa, to attend a three-year **Teacher Education Program** at the Institut Supérieur Pédagogique d'Antananarivo (ISPA). At the end of her studies, This young woman will teach at École Mamiko.

Next steps: We will continue searching for sponsors for offering scholarships to Malagasy students from rural Madagascar, who have completed their high school diploma and wish to continue their studies to become trained teachers.

WHAT WE DO:

RAISING CHILDREN'S AWARENESS IN HIGHER INCOME COUNTRIES



Given that Boky Mamiko originated from university lecturers, our passion for education does not end in Madagascar.

One of our goals is to raise **children's awareness and knowledge** in higher income countries about **Madagascar, poverty and environmental** issues.

In 2018, we visited several schools in Zurich, Switzerland, and talked about Madagascar, poverty and environmental issues with the students. In return, the students of these schools organized **7 fundraisers** to support children's learning in Madagascar and raised more than 3000 Swiss Francs.

Next steps: We will continue our education program visiting other schools in Switzerland and abroad to increase children's awareness of **the importance of giving back**.

BOKY MAMIKO'S SENIOR TEAM



Rossana Galli
Co-founder of Boky Mamiko



Geneviève Soaritony
Co-founder of Boky Mamiko
and founder of École Mamiko



Felicia Sexsmith
Educational director of Boky Mamiko



Lisa Soarinera
Director of École Mamiko



Brunella Trimarco
Volunteer fundraiser and
communication coordinator

BOKY MAMIKO'S VOLUNTEERS 2018



Team one (left to right):
Storya (our local librarian) with Marine Hermes, Sarah Steinegger and Dominic Rietmann

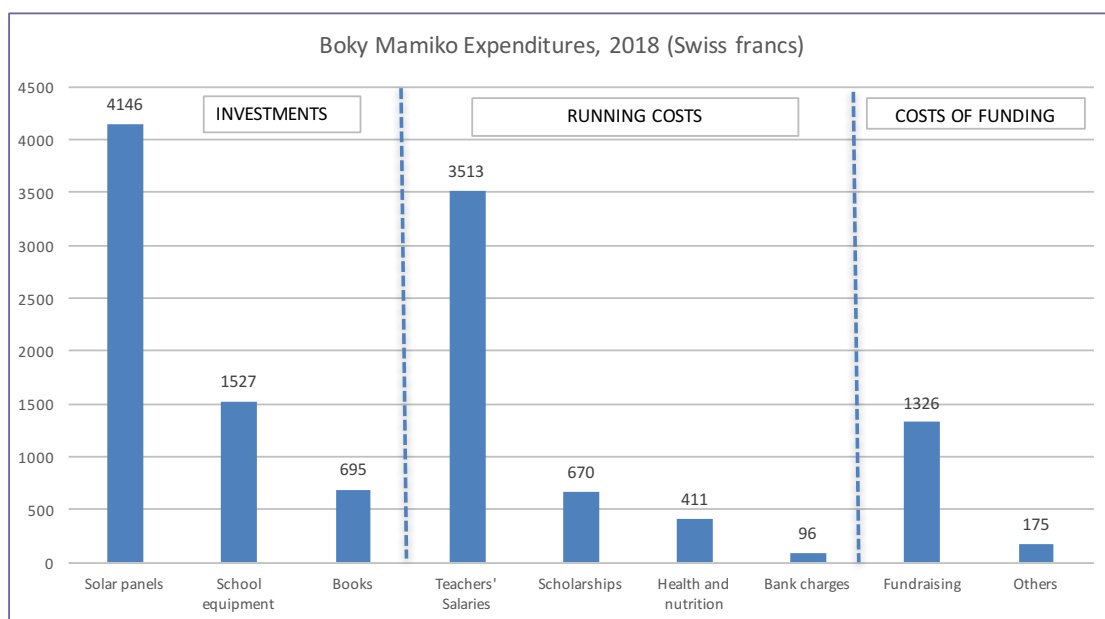


Team two (left to right):
Nina Watter (first), Mariana Escobar Barros (third),
Natalie Schwarz (fourth) and Alessandra Ramacci (last)

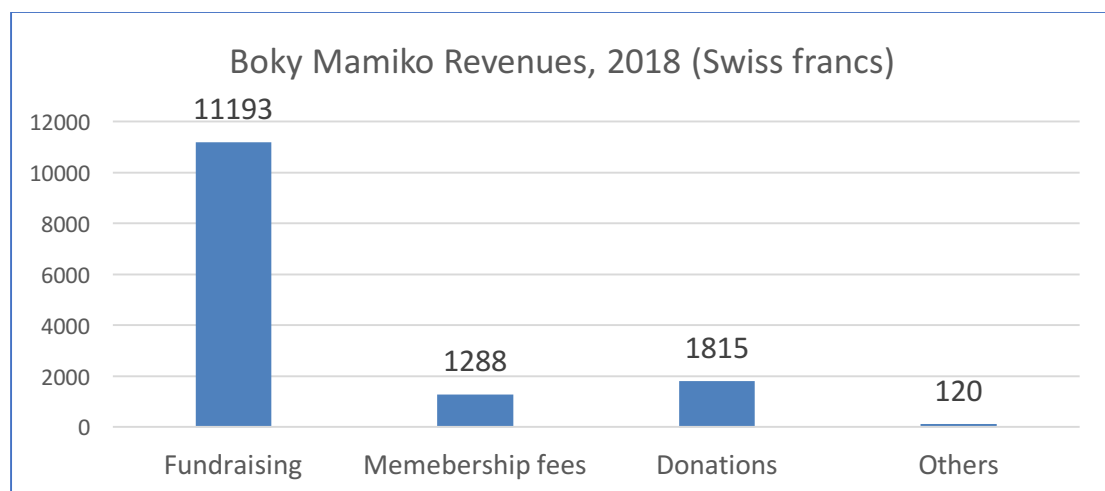
Besides spending about two months as teaching volunteers in Djangoa, our volunteers helped us in a myriad of ways, from selecting and classifying the books for the school library, to contacting sponsors, translating texts, or helping with fundraising.

BOKY MAMIKO'S REVENUES AND EXPENDITURES

Boky Mamiko is run by volunteers mainly based in Switzerland, in collaboration with the school founder and director of École Mamiko in Djangoa, Madagascar. The board members and the volunteers freely give their time and energy to the project and cover the operating costs. This means that **100% of the funds raised are spent on École Mamiko directly**.



Total Expenditures 2018: CHF 12'558



Total Revenues 2018: CHF 14'416

BOKY MAMIKO'S SPONSORS

In addition to the financial and professional support of many friends, Boky Mamiko received donations (in the forms of products or logistical and fundraising support) from **several companies and institutions in Switzerland and abroad**, among which:

AKIM Hair & Style (Zurich)	Museum Rietberg (Zurich)
Blüetetraum (Kilchberg, ZH)	Neos Air (Italy)
Boost (Zurich)	Office LAB (Zurich)
Caran d'Ache (Switzerland)	Orthodontics Giulia Guadagni (Bologna, Italy)
Creative Café (Thalwil, ZH)	Parish St. Martin (Meilen, ZH)
Curaden (Switzerland)	Pizzeria Napulé (Meilen)
Edizioni Martina (Bologna, Italy)	PKZ (Switzerland)
Egli Catering (Pfäffikon, SZ)	Pompe de Lux (Switzerland)
Golden Acupuncture (Zurich)	Pukar Collection (Zurich)
Gymnastica Kilchberg (Kilchberg, ZH)	Restaurant Grünwald (Zurich)
Hallwag Kümmerly+Frey (Switzerland)	Salottino (Horgen, ZH)
Intrigo (Horgen, ZH)	Swiss International School (Switzerland)
Juicery 21 (Zurich)	Sylvia Day (Zurich)
La Joie de Lire (Geneva)	Technorama (Winterthur)
Le Torte di Apple Pie (Kilchberg, ZH)	Tierpark Goldau (Goldau)
Lycée Français de Zurich (Switzerland)	Tupperware (Switzerland)
Makoto Sushi (Horgen, ZH)	Weinauslese (Kilchberg, ZH)
Man Roof (Zurich)	Zooh! Zurich (Zurich)
Morach Metzgerei (Kilchberg, ZH)	

We are thankful to all of you who believed in our project from the very beginning, and who continue to support our work.

