

# Vafoka Vakiteny News

Content and layout of the newsletter: Mparany Rakotondrainy

## Dear friends of Vakoka Vakiteny

Easter is coming, and we want to thank you all for your support and cooperation.

Thanks to our joint efforts, we were able to publish *Hetaheta* this year, and we have just released *Rebila* in a bilingual edition (Malagasy and French). This was made possible through a cooperation with the Ministry of Education, Department of Educational Resources in Madagascar.

We are grateful for what we have accomplished together and look forward to continuing this positive journey.

We wish you and your loved ones a happy, peaceful, and hopeful Easter!

Best wishes

*Mparany Rakotondrainy*

Manager of **Vafoka Vakiteny**



## *Vakoka Vakiteny Participates in Book Chain Workshop*

In mid-March, Vakoka Vakiteny took part in a two-day workshop organized by "Resource Educative" from the Ministry of education in Antananarivo and "Bibliothèque Nationale", focusing on the dynamics between authors and editors. The event brought together six editors, including Vakoka, and twelve authors to explore ways to enhance collaboration.

Discussions centred on balancing the rights of authors and editors, fostering clear communication, and cultivating mutual respect. Participants exchanged ideas on navigating the legal aspects of publishing and ensuring smoother working relationships.

For Vakoka Vakiteny, Mrs Hanta participated in the workshop. It was an eye-opening experience, offering valuable insights and inspiration to strengthen future partnerships between authors and editors.



Authors and Editors during the workshop  
Picture by Ressource Educative



## Vakoka Vakiteny and Resource Educative Partner for Bilingual *Rebila* Reprint

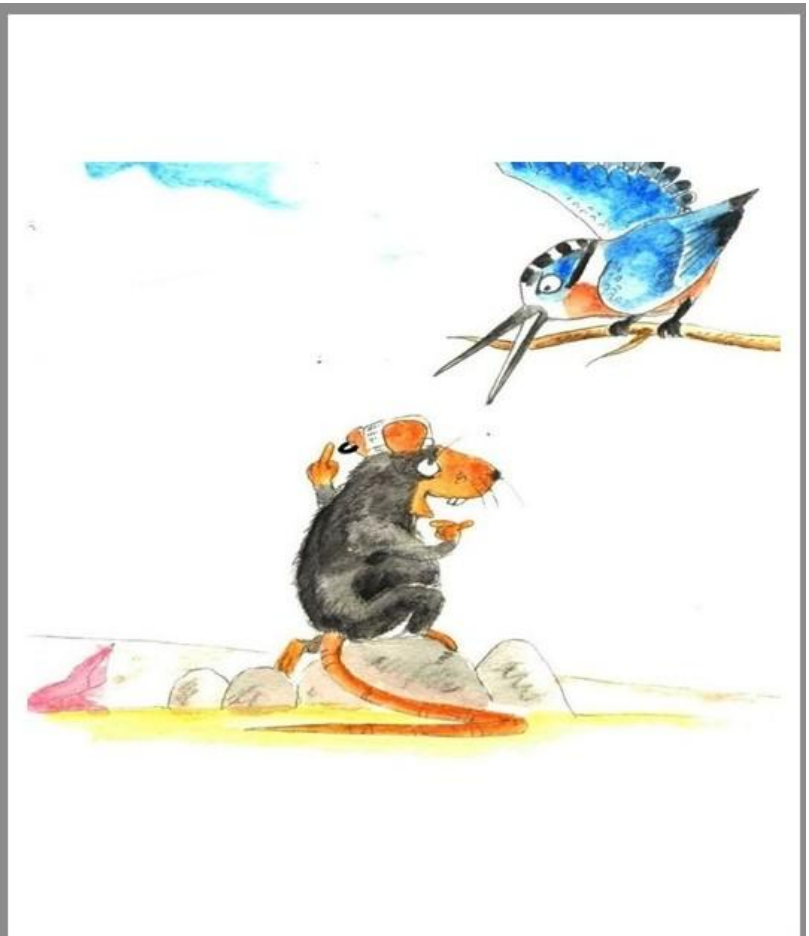
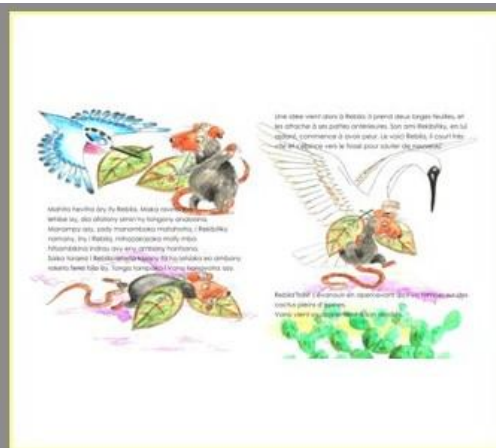
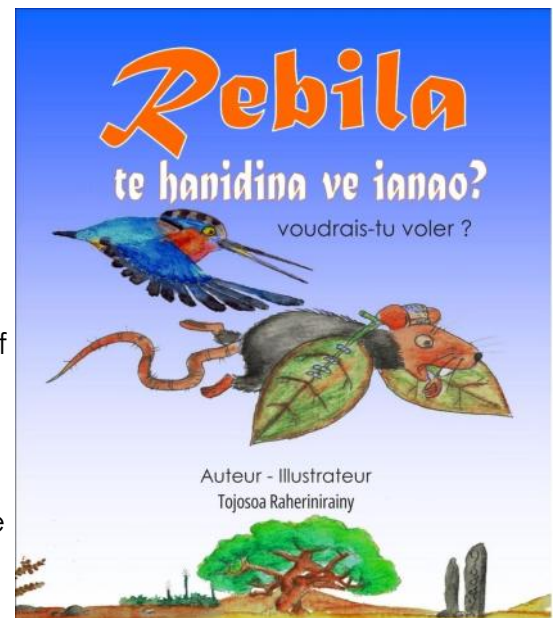
On 19th March, Vakoka Vakiteny signed a contract with "Resource Educative" (RE) in Madagascar to reprint *Rebila* in both Malagasy and French.

Thanks to RE's financial support, this bilingual edition is finally becoming a reality — a testament to years of dedication from Vakoka Vakiteny and its team to bring the story to a wider audience.

The reprint will soon be available, offering readers the opportunity to experience *Rebila* in both languages.

This milestone not only celebrates Malagasy culture but also strengthens connections between communities through language and literature.

Vakoka Vakiteny is pleased about this new chapter and looks forward to sharing *Rebila* with readers in two languages!



## ***New Book Release: "Hetaheta" by Vakoka Vakiteny***

After months of hard work, dedication, and seamless teamwork, *Hetaheta*—the latest book by Vakoka Vakiteny — is finally here! *Hetaheta* means “thirst” and comes from one of the texts in the book entitled “Hetaheta”. Throughout this text, there is a desire for change and a desire for a better environment in Madagascar.

The journey of making this book began last August in a workshop carried out by Vakoka Vakiteny and supported by the Association in Germany. In this workshop, students from Ambohimananambola joined Vakoka Vakiteny and our team to create a unique book. They brainstormed ideas, worked on the layout, and refined the contents. The book has two main parts: One about environment and one about women's and girls' rights.

Vakoka Vakiteny's team consisting of Hanta, an author and an illustrator, spent many hours reworking and editing, cooperating closely with proofreaders to ensure that the texts were excellent. Hanta travelled to Antananarivo to oversee the printing process and ensured the quality of the book. After many steps, the book is now printed and delivered to Antsirabe.

This is a major achievement for Vakoka Vakiteny, who now has a new book ready for distribution. We are particularly happy that it is a book made through collaboration and creative effort.



Hanta working with the designer at Ecoprim in Antananarivo







## ***The Library of Mahazoarivo II: A Hub of Learning and Fun!***

The small yet cherished library in Mahazoarivo II, Antsirabe, has been buzzing with activity, thanks to the dedicated efforts of Hanta and the Vakoka Vakiteny team. As always, Hanta opens the library daily, welcoming children in the morning and afternoon.

In February, Hanta organized a series of activities on books and reading at four local schools. The result: An impressive 120 children visiting the library each day to explore the world of books. To manage the growing number of visitors, Hanta divided the children into smaller groups, ensuring everyone had a chance to engage. For younger children under six, she dedicated time to reading and fun activities.

For the people in the surrounding area, this small library has become a vibrant hub — a place of learning, joy, and discovery.



## *Christian Youth Organization Brings more Life to the Mahazoarivo Library*

In March, the Mahazoarivo library received a heartwarming visit from a Christian youth organization, YMCA. A group of 19 young people arrived with energy and enthusiasm, eager to make a difference. They spent the day cleaning and planting flowers around the library, transforming the space into an even more welcoming environment.

The YMCA group, known for their commitment to social work, regularly supports public schools and community libraries, and their visit to Mahazoarivo was no exception. Their efforts not only beautified the library but also highlighted the importance of community support and care.

This wonderful collaboration further strengthens the bond between the library and the local community, making it a place of learning and growth for all. A big thank you to the YMCA for their hard work and dedication!



Group photo by YMCA



# Happy Easter



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## About *Vaħoħa Vaħiteny*

***Vaħoħa Vaħiteny*** has since 2008

- ... published 21 titles
- ... distributed 38,000 books
- ... encouraged thousands of children to read
- ... introduced reading in hundreds of schools
- ... strengthened the Malagasy language
- ... promoted Malagasy authors and artists
- ... participated in many cultural events
- ... supported the Malagasy natural environment through books and campaigns

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