Compendium of best practices in response to Covid-19
Preamble

The compendium of best practices related to responses to Coronavirus disease carried out by MCDI through the FAA Program presents 19 best practices showing the contribution of MCDI in the fight against Coronavirus disease in Madagascar.

This compendium serves to list the actions carried out by MCDI and the FAA Program which is specifically attributed to the fight against Coronavirus disease in Madagascar. It includes three themes that are equally important to understand how the program proceeded in the fight against this disease:

• Mobilizing our vast network of more than 100,000 community actors for response and prevention
• Building on our extensive CLTS capability to trigger hand washing behavior change to help break the Covid-19 transmission chain.
• Institutional trigger to trigger social norms to fight against Covid-19

Due to the nature of the identified best practices, this compendium is addressed to Ministries as well as technical and financial partners, and is intended for decision-makers at the national, regional and departmental levels without forgetting community actors.

We would like to thank the Ministry of Water, Sanitation and Hygiene, the Ministry of National Education, the Ministry of Public Health, the Ministry of the Interior and Decentralization, the members of the Regional Operational Command Centers, the members of the Program Coordination Mechanism, the team of the Executing Agency, all the Subgrantes, the Mayors of the different communes in our intervention zone, the Fokontany Chiefs, the Heads of Basic Health Centers, the school principals and the teachers, the heads of local radio stations, the people in charge of markets and bush taxi stations, the members of local community and institutional governance, all community actors (natural leaders, local technicians, traditional and religious leaders, customary chiefs), managers of big and small restaurants who are now involved in this initiative.
Compendium of best practices in response to COVID-19

PREAMBLE

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**Acronyms**

SG : Subgrantees
COVID-19 : CoronaVirus Disease 2019
CSB : Basic Health Centers
IT : Institutional triggering
HWF : Hand-washing Facility
DRS : Regional Health Directorate
FAA : Fonds d'Appui pour l'Assainissement

MCDI : Medical Care Development International
MINSANP : Ministère de la Santé Publique
WHO : World Health Organization
SSENV : Service de Santé et Environnement
TA : Technical assistant
WASH : Water Sanitation and Hygiene
MOBILIZING OUR VAST NETWORK OF MORE THAN 100,000 COMMUNITY ACTORS FOR RESPONSE AND PREVENTION
The current health situation shows the development of the Coronavirus pandemic in Madagascar (03 cases of Coronavirus infection on March 20, 2020 and 14452 cases on September 15, 2020). One of the effective strategies to limit the spread of this pandemic across the country is to act more quickly while implementing preventive measures and strictly adhering to them. It is in this regard that MCDI Madagascar has progressively intensified the mobilization of its vast network of more than 100,000 community actors spread throughout the 21 regions of Madagascar to strengthen Coronavirus response and prevention actions.
MOBILIZING THE NETWORK OF LOCAL AUTHORITIES: CASE OF A FRUITFUL COLLABORATION WITH THE AUTHORITIES OF SOAVINANDRIANA IN THE FIGHT AGAINST COVID-19

During the ten years of intervention in the District of Soavinandriana, in the Itasy Region of Madagascar, the FAA Program managed by MCDI and implemented by the NGO Famonjena has made it possible to make thousands of villages in the 16 intervention communes of the region open defecation free (ODF).

Inform, train and support: these three watchwords are the focus of the actions carried out by the NGO in the field. Information and training in barrier gestures in various high-traffic areas such as administrative offices, Basic Health Centers, schools, small restaurants, as well as communal markets, have made it possible to bring about changes in people's behavior: hand washing with soap has become a well-established habit, other protective measures such as wearing masks in public places and social distancing are ongoing.

Since March 2020, the Coronavirus pandemic has disrupted the daily life of the population: the fight against the spread of the virus has become a priority for the country; the NGO Famonjena contributes to this fight alongside local authorities. Many years of collaboration in the fight against OD have helped to establish a relationship of trust between Famonjena's technicians and the local authorities. Thus, the Mayor of the commune of Ampary has chosen to integrate the members of the NGO team in the various activities of prevention against the pandemic. As a full member of the intervention brigade, each technician was granted a permit to circulate in due form signed by the Mayor allowing the field visit at the community level.
Training and skills transfer provide many people with sources of income because, as a result of the campaign to fight against COVID-19, public demand for hand-washing facilities keeps on increasing.

As a result, some natural leaders who benefited from the HWF manufacturing technique with the NGO’s technicians manage to sell HWF to the villagers, while the technicians satisfy the demand of the inhabitants of the chief towns of the Communes.

On the other hand, village seamstresses begin to make face masks. To this end, the technicians provided them with the necessary instructions to make face masks that comply with standards (with triple thickness lining).

At schools, the team also took advantage of the meeting of school principals led by the Head of the Pedagogical Administration Zone (ZAP) to trigger all teachers to support the efforts against the pandemic. It was also an opportunity to distribute posters about the fight against COVID-19 for their respective schools. The meeting was meant to teach teachers how to make and use of HWFs with plastic jerrycans. Participants committed to share what they had taught their students and to prioritizing the fight against covid-19.
MOBILIZING NON-GOVERNMENTAL ORGANIZATION NETWORKS TO FACILITATE THE TRANSFER OF LOCAL TECHNOLOGY FOR HANDWASHING FACILITIES.

Within the framework of the fight against Covid-19, MCDI Madagascar contributes to the support of the authorities at the national and regional level within the Operational Command Center.

The NGO SPM in the Ihorombe region, which collaborates with MCDI, provided support to the Regional Health Directorate (DRS) for the manufacture of Hand Washing Facilities (HWF) with soap following the request of the Heads of Basic Health Centers that do not have the technical skills to make them.

The person in charge of sanitation at the DRS level attended this transfer of skills, which was followed by a practical session, and will ensure that a cascade training is held for public and private CSB heads on the making and use of HWFs.

In addition, the NGO SPM also produced HWFs for markets, at bush taxi stations, near the urban commune office and urban CSBs, while carrying out demonstration activities on handwashing with soap and awareness-raising activities on the fight against Coronavirus.

*Information collected by Dr Aimé Randriamanalina*
MOBILIZING NETWORKS OF NON-GOVERNMENTAL ORGANIZATIONS AND CIVIL SOCIETIES FOR BEHAVIOR CHANGE COMMUNICATION AND COMMUNITY MOBILIZATION ON COVID-19

The NGO Miarintsoa, one of this network of NGOs working in the Region of Vakinankaratra, focused its support in 05 communes of the District of Faratsiho and to the team of the “Vatsin’Ankohonanana”. The activities carried out resulted in (i) a mass campaign on hand-washing with soap while respecting preventive measures (distance of one meter between two people), (ii) the distribution and posting of posters at the Basic Health Centers (BHCs), in the markets and in the offices of the five communes, and (iii) membership in the health vigilance committee set up in each commune.

The support of the NGO Miarintsoa has enabled many people to be targeted with the Coronavirus. However, the fight against COVID-19 is still going on and it is in this sense that it plans to design radio broadcastings through local radios to reinforce the efforts already undertaken in the Region.

The fight against COVID-19 in Madagascar is not only the Government’s responsibility nor its of the health staff because it involves the solidarity of all and the mobilization of everyone.

For Medical Care Development International Madagascar, it has mobilized its implementing partners, within the framework of the Support for Sanitation Fund (FAA), to strengthen prevention and response actions against the Coronavirus.

Information collected by Chantal Razafrarivelo
Compendium of best practices in response to COVID-19

Madagascar is still fighting against COVID-19 at the moment especially in the 3 regions at risk including Analamanga, Atsinanana and Haute Matsiatra. MCDI/ FAA, through its implementing partner Miarintsoa of the Haute Matsiatra region has multiplied its efforts in several forms ranging from the support of the Regional Operational Command Center (CCOR) to the support of the decentralized levels where different sensitization activities are carried out to understand and practice barrier gestures, the NGO is working with local radio stations to broadcast messages about hand-washing with soap on a regular basis to break the Coronavirus transmission chain.

HWF made available to customers in front of a gârgote (Photo Credit: Miarintsoa)

Note that the NGO broadcasts this special awareness program once a week for about 15 to 20 minutes.

The population of the city of Fianarantsoa, aware of the current circumstances and the importance of respecting these barrier gestures, demand the installation of Hand Washing Facilities (HWFs) with soap in front of the small restaurants. Thus, following the request of the small restaurants to be trained in the manufacture of HWFs, the NGO trained them. Implementation of HWFs in 20-liter plastic containers with a bicycle valve faucet according to local technology from the community or a real faucet according to their possibilities.

While Miarintsoa’s efforts do not stop there, it supports the regional operational command center on awareness activities for the respect of barrier gestures in markets and bush taxi station by using mobile sound systems and distributing posters and flyers during group animations.

Information collected by Fetra Rajaonarivony
MOBILIZE VILLAGE SAVINGS AND LOANS ASSOCIATIONS AS A PIVOT FOR BEHAVIOR CHANGE AND FOR REDUCING THE FINANCIAL BARRIER TO ACCESS TO HYGIENE FACILITIES.

Since the implementation of the Sanitation Support Fund Program (FAA) managed by MCDI Madagascar, Open Air Defecation-Free Villages have been distributed in the Haute Matsiatra region following the efforts of its implementing partner, the NGO Miarintsoa. Through its network of NGOs, FAA/MCDI currently has more than 250 Village Savings and Loans Associations (VSLA), which are operational and encourage the community to have a savings culture in order to maintain a healthy behavior and improve their standard of living.

As part of the fight against COVID-19, the members of these VSLAs have been mobilized to strengthen the response to this pandemic. The NGO has consulted with the members of the VSLA formed in its intervention zone to identify the strategies to be adopted in order to trigger and sensitize all the villagers on the fight against COVID-19. Thus, the women who are at the same time members of VSLA and leaders in sanitation held sensitization activities in their respective villages while distributing posters and flyers without forgetting to give information on the barrier measures to fight against the Coronavirus by insisting on hand-washing with soap.

Through these associations, the NGO will ensure the maintenance and sustainability of achievements in the field of sanitation and hygiene, particularly in improving the quality of latrines that meet the ODF criteria in parallel with the fight against COVID-19.
BUILDING ON OUR EXTENSIVE CAPACITY IN CLTS TO TRIGGER HAND-WASHING BEHAVIOR CHANGE TO HELP BREAK THE COVID-19 TRANSMISSION CHAIN
BUILDING ON THE COMMUNITY TRIGGERING TO SUSTAIN THE BEHAVIOUR CHANGE THAT HAS BEEN ACHIEVED IN TERMS OF HYGIENE AND SANITATION

Long before the appearance of COVID-19, MCDI, through the Support Fund for Sanitation (FAA) Program, has already carried out activities to change the hygiene and sanitation behavior of the population in Madagascar, particularly the rural population. These activities consist of community triggerings so that the population adopts healthy behaviors in the fight against the practice of open defecation and hand-washing with soap.

Since the confirmation of positive cases of Coronavirus in Madagascar, it has been consistently communicated through all existing channels that regular hand-washing with soap and water contributes effectively to the fight against the spread of this disease. Thus, MCDI Madagascar has built on its extensive capacity in Community Led Total Sanitation (CLTS) to trigger behavioral change in the community to help break the COVID-19 transmission chain. These awareness raising activities on barrier measures were conducted by its implementing partners spread throughout the island's regions.

To concretize these actions, all the program's implementation partners promoted the HWFs manufactured by local technicians in order to serve the community in their respective areas of intervention. At the local level, households have HWFs near their homes and next to the latrines.

Of course, these activities contribute to strengthening the fight against Coronavirus but also to the popularization of the maintenance and sustainability of healthy behaviors to ensure the well-being of all in the area of sanitation and hygiene.
BUILDING ON THE TRIGGERING OF STRATEGIC AREAS TO TRIGGER THE SCALING UP OF BEHAVIOR CHANGE: CASE OF THE ATSINANANA REGION (MCDI/MAMIZO)

MCDI Madagascar called on its network of Non-Governmental Organizations (NGOs) to contribute to the fight against Coronavirus that has been raging in Madagascar for about two months. MAMIZO, an implementing partner of the FAA/WSSCC Program in the Atsinanana region, supports local authorities in this fight against the disease.

Awareness raising and social mobilization activities have been held in the District of Toamasina I, especially in areas of high affluence such as markets, fokontany offices, CSBs, schools, churches, public latrines and small restaurants.

It should be noted that at the beginning of May, MAMIZO was able to share 585 posters on the fight against Covid-19, 1585 flyers, and 260 posters on the steps of Hand-washing with Soap.

A total of 14376 people were reached by these awareness raising and social mobilization activities.

In addition, MAMIZO has designed a spot on barrier gestures in local dialect and collaborates with a radio station by broadcasting it three times a day.

MAMIZO does not stop there, but will continue its efforts to fight against Coronavirus while supporting the Operational Command Center at the regional level.

Information collected by Dr Aimé Randriamanalina et équipe de Mamizo
Since the first cases of COVID-19 were reported in Madagascar last March, the two MCDI implementing partners working in the Bongolava region, FAMI and SAF Bongolava, have been working together to protect their region from this disease.

To support local authorities in this fight, they mobilized the region’s Natural Leader groups to quickly convey key messages, ensuring that barrier measures are communicated and applied at the local level. They have strengthened local communication by disseminating prevention messages every day and by displaying the barrier measures in busy areas such as markets, regional bush taxi stations and administrative offices.

In collaboration with the Regional Directorate of Water, Sanitation and Hygiene (DREAH), the Regional Directorate of National Education (DREN) and the Prefect of the region, the two implementing partners participated in the disinfection of classrooms in schools in the town of Tsiroanomandidy and the installation of hand-washing facilities in strategic areas of high traffic.

In solidarity in this fight against COVID-19, the two implementing partners planned the extension of these actions to other districts without forgetting the activities related to the fight against open defecation.

Since the declaration of the first cases of COVID-19 in Madagascar last March, MCDI’s two implementing partners working in the Bongolava region FAMI and SAF Bongolava joined forces to protect their region from this disease.
To strengthen the fight against Coronavirus, 950 posters and 1900 flyers on the fight against this disease were distributed in the 11 communes of the Boeny Region, Madagascar. The communal leaders, the presidents of the fokontany, the 11 heads of Basic Health Centers, 45 Local Institutional Groups, and the 420 Local village Community Groups as well as natural leaders joined hands to affix these posters in offices and public places as well as to distribute flyers to the population.

Following the Coronavirus Epidemic in Madagascar, the Non-Governmental Organization (NGO) GREEN, implementing agency of MCDI Madagascar within the framework of the FAA/WSSCC Program, contributes to the national movement to fight the COVID-19 pandemic by raising public awareness on the spread of the disease. GREEN, with the support of MCDI, collaborates with the vigilance committee.

Eleven communes in the three districts of the Boeny region including Mahajanga II, Marovoay and Ambato Boeni have been the subject of this activity.
**Disinfection of classrooms to protect the school population:** Even before the appearance of confirmed cases of COVID-19 in Analanjirofo Region, MCDI and the FAA/WSSCC Program, through the support of ASOS NGO, which is one of the implementing partner agencies, participated in the interventions against the spread of COVID-19, at the institutional level and especially in public and private schools. These actions were led in close collaboration with the Regional Operational Command Center, which is the unit in charge of all interventions against this disease in Analanjirofo Region.

![Photo of NGO ASOS team disinfecting public and private classrooms](Photo_credit:ASOS_Analanjiro)

**Focus on the promotion of prevention:** Through the support of MCDI and the FAA/WSSCC Program, the NGO ASOS was able to continue and amplify the promotion of prevention actions to fight against COVID-19 in 5 Districts (Fénérive-Est, Mananara, Maroantsetra Soanierana Ivongo and Vavatenina) of the Analanjirofo Region located in the eastern part of Madagascar. In addition to the promotion of prevention messages such as barrier methods aimed at breaking the chain of transmission (wearing masks, washing hands with soap or use of hydroalcoholic gels, distancing, etc.), this time the actions carried out are disinfection sessions in public and private schools. They are carried out following the decision of the Government of Madagascar to move to a partial and progressive deconfinement, one of the measures being the reopening of part of the schools, i.e., for the students in examination classes (Grade 9 and Grade 12). A total of 39 schools (36 schools in the District of Fénérive-Est and 3 in the District of Soanierana Ivongo) were disinfected to better prepare for the return to school. These actions were conducted jointly with several representatives of different ministerial departments at the regional level (National Education, Public Health and Water, Sanitation and Hygiene) and also with the local authorities. It should be noted that Madagascar is only at the beginning of the epidemic and that the fight against COVID-19 is far from being over. Also, the 2 positive cases declared in the Analanjirofo Region have not yet been cured and the promotion of different prevention measures to limit the spread of this disease continues.

*Information collected by Vanessa Rasoamalala*
The world is facing the Coronavirus pandemic, each country is using different methods to fight the disease. For Madagascar, lock-down measures and a curfew from 8 pm to 5 am have been adopted in the Analamanga, Haute Matsiatra, Atsinanana regions where there are the most numerous positive cases.

More than ever, MCDI Madagascar is mobilizing through its network of Non-Governmental Organizations working in the 22 regions to maximize prevention and control efforts against COVID-19 at the community level.

GREEN, an implementing agency of the FAA/WSSCC Program in the region of Boeny, has made considerable efforts in facilitating and mobilizing community members to respect hygiene and prevention measures, as well as in installing Hand-Washing Facilities in the areas where community leaders are most active.

To ensure that community members have the necessary means to protect themselves, technicians reinforced the transfer of skills on the production of Hand-washing Facilities from local products and the initiation of handwashing with soap.

In order to prevent the spread of the virus, local technicians have increased the involvement of members of the local community governance to lead the facilitation of hygiene and prevention instructions, so that they are well prepared to take over.

Information collected by MAMIHARIJAONA Solefo
BUILD ON THE COMMITMENT OF LOCAL COMMUNITY GOVERNANCE TO MAXIMIZE THE FIGHT AGAINST CORONAVIRUS IN THE MOST REMOTE VILLAGES: CASE OF THE BOENY REGION (MDCDI/GREEN)

MCDI continues to carry out field activities, especially the strengthening of community awareness and the dissemination of hygiene and sanitation messages, while contributing to efforts to prevent and control the spread of the Coronavirus.

For the past two weeks, the NGO GREEN, an Implementing Agency of the FAA/WSSCC Program intervening in the region of Boeny has integrated in its current activities the sensitization on the prevention of COVID-19.

The actions undertaken are the following:
(1) production and distribution of communication tools, namely posters and flyers containing handwashing messages and barrier gestures against the Coronavirus,
(2) promotion of hand-washing through spot broadcasting on local radio stations whose coverage includes the communes of Ambondromamy and Marovoay, as well as the mobilization of the network of Local Institutional Governance and Local Community Governance.
(3) production and distribution of Hand-washing Facilities (HWFs),
(4) mass sensitization on handwashing with soap and water in affluent areas such as markets, bush taxi stations, fokontany offices, and communes

In the last two weeks the achievements of the NGO GREEN relating to the fight against the spread of the COVID-19 can be summarized as follows:
- 800 posters and 1600 flyers were distributed,
- 36 spot broadcasts in local radio stations,
- 372,222 people are reached by the promotion of hand-washing with soap.
Within the framework of the fight against the COVID-19 epidemic in Madagascar, a team composed of the Environmental Health Service (SSE) of the Ministry of Public Health, technicians from Medical Care Development International (MCDI) as the Executing Agency of the Support for Sanitation Fund (FAA) program and the NGO ASOS Madagascar were mobilized to reinforce the awareness and the practice of barrier gestures on the fight against the COVID-19 epidemic, for all SAMVA staff, and other institutions (LOOMAT and OMAVET). This initiative was launched at the request of SAMVA and targeted handling staff, administrative staff and decision-makers of this institution. SAMVA staff are in the front line in this fight against COVID-19, by the fact that they are in charge of solid waste management, collection and garbage collection in the capital, with an average of 1200 tons of waste collected daily.

After brief introductions by the Director General of SAMVA and the SSENV/MINSANP team, a triggering session was conducted by Dr RATEFINJANAHRY Joéлина of MCDI so that barrier gestures in front of covid-19 would become the absolute priority of the assistance whatever their respective positions. Subsequently, Dr. Fano RANDRIAMANANTSOA of MCDI explained to the employees that they should reinforce the barrier behaviors including frequent hand washing with soap or use of disinfectant gels, systematic use of face masks, and social distancing measures to protect oneself and protect others from Coronavirus. The intervention ended with a demonstration session on applying, wearing, and managing face masks, handwashing with soap, social distancing, and a staff practice.
During the three days of intervention, 1500 individuals were affected by this action. It should be noted that each truck is equipped with a removable hand-washing facility (HWF) and soap to ensure hand-washing with soap by the team of 5 people with the driver on board, after garbage collection, since the declaration of the epidemic in Madagascar.
Hand-washing with soap and respect for social distancing
(photo credit: Mparany MCDI)

The General Director of SAMVA (wearing orange jacket) attended the practical sessions of handwashing with soap (Photo Credit: Mparany)

Removable HWF set-up for the pick-up and collection crew in a truck (photo credit: Mparany)

Information gathered by Fano Randriamanantsoa et Joelina Ratefinjahary
BUILDING ON THE COLLABORATION WITH THE MINISTRY OF WATER, SANITATION AND HYGIENE TO STRENGTHEN THE FIGHT AGAINST COVID-19 IN MADAGASCAR (MCDI)

Following the MEAH’s request to all technical and financial partners working in the Water, Sanitation and Hygiene sector in the fight against COVID-19, the FAA/ WSSCC Program managed by MCDI contributed by providing communication tools and hand-washing facilities. In total, the program produced 5,000 posters promoting hand-washing with soap, 10,000 flyers on individual prevention measures, and 350 hand-washing facilities.

A part of the supports (1000 Posters and 2000 Flyers) was used in Antananarivo which is currently the largest home of COVID-19. The remainings were sent by the Ministry of Water, Sanitation and Hygiene to 6 other major cities (Antsirabe, Antsiranana, Fianarantsoa, Mahajanga, Toamasina and Toliara) to be used in schools in preparation for the partial reopening of schools.

For handwashing devices, 150 were distributed in Antananarivo and surrounding communes, while 200 were sent to other regions (Analanjirofo, Atsinanana, Bongolava, and Vakinankaratra).

Information collected by RAZAFIMAHEFA Mialy
BUILDING ON AWARENESS CAPACITY TO POPULARIZE BARRIER GESTURES: CASE OF THE ANOSY AND ANDROY REGIONS (MCDI/SAHI/AVIA)

There are not yet any positive cases of Coronavirus in Anosy and Androy regions, but given the orientation of the FAA/WSSCC Program to address the current health crisis, the Subgrantees SAHI and AVIA working in the southern region of the island are involved in the extension of the main barrier gestures to stop the spread of Coronavirus.

The respect of the barrier gestures are communicated and concretized by (i) the triggering of handwashing with soap, (ii) making the community aware of maintaining a social distance of one meter, (iii) awareness activities while affixing various posters on these barrier gestures. In addition, the field agents recommended the wearing of masks. During the field intervention, community members were very interested in the explanations of the prevention measures.

The actions carried out against COVID-19 in these two regions are opportunities to strengthen the maintenance of villages without open defecation and to reinvigorate the involvement of local authorities at all levels in the fight against open defecation.

Information collected by RAZAFINATOANY Dany
BUILDING ON THE COMMITMENT OF LOCAL AUTHORITIES TO MAKE HYGIENE SERVICES AVAILABLE TO THE COMMUNITY: CASE OF THE ANALAMANGA REGION (MCDI)

Faced with the resurgence of Coronavirus in Madagascar, the FAA Program managed by MCDI, in partnership with the Ministry of Water, Sanitation and Hygiene, supported the rural commune of Alasora in the Analamanga region through the donation of Hand Washing Facilities.

The set-up of these HWFs contributes to the improvement of the hygiene of the Alasora commune community members. The authorities on site are strict on the use of these facilities which are installed in strategic places, such as the market, the office of the commune and the gendarmerie.

To this day, the HWFs are still functional and the local authorities and community members are grateful to have access to hygiene services in this time of crisis.

The municipality issued a decree saying that every person entering the market or a public service is required to wash their hands and the wearing of masks is mandatory. The municipality staffs organize themselves to ensure a continuous supply of water.

Information collected by RAZAFIMAHEFA Mialy
INSTITUTIONAL TRIGGERING TO TRIGGER SOCIAL NORMS AGAINST COVID-19
As soon as the first positive cases of Coronavirus were confirmed in the Haute Matsiatra region, the Regional Directorate of Water, Sanitation and Hygiene (DREAH) organized a consultation meeting with the technical and financial partners working in the region to deal with all the emergencies related to the unprecedented health crisis facing the region.

In front of these circumstances, MCDI, through Miarintsoa, its implementing partner, renews its support to help local authorities coordinate responses to this pandemic.

This meeting was an opportunity for Miarintsoa to conduct a triggering for all new mayors to follow up on the implementation of security measures for the local population face to this disease. The mayors committed themselves to accompany the community actors throughout this fight.

In the field, Miarintsoa’s actions, like those of all other implementation partners, consists in strengthening as much as possible the social norms of the fight against the disease at the level of all Fokontany, the awareness of the population through display of barrier gestures and installation of washing facilities on high-traffic areas, installation of HWFs on high-traffic areas and high-traffic areas.

Miarintsoa is also accelerating the capacity building of natural leader groups and members of the new “loharano” or spring committee, established by the government at the Fokontany level, so that they can assist the local population to prevent and manage the spread of the disease. It should be remembered that this loharano committee will proceed among other things to the distribution and distribution of the aid granted by the State and also to the sensitization of the population on the fight against this Coronavirus disease. Miarintsoa actively participates in the fight against the Coronavirus disease in the region of Haute Matsiatra, but it has also revitalized the local actors and community members in the fight against OD.
Following the appointment of the new governor of the Vakinankaratra region, a courtesy visit was made on 23rd April 2020 by the Sanitation Support Fund team represented by the technical facilitator (Inter-Regional Assistant) and the two implementing partner NGOs (NGO MIARINTSOA and Caritas Antsirabe) working in this region.

After the presentation between the two entities (structure, objectives, etc...) and the sharing of the situation on the implementation of the Program, the Support for Sanitation Fund team recalls the effective participation of the Program in the fight against COVID-19 in Madagascar, particularly in the Region of Vakinankaratra, as well as the collaboration with the operational structures against the Coronavirus at the Regional, District, Communal level as well as in the Fokontany and villages in its intervention zones.

This interview is marked by the elaboration of a collaboration plan with the Directorate of Development of Economic and Social Affairs of the Region in order to strengthen the fight against open defecation in the Region of Vakinankaratra. In addition, the Governor reiterated his commitment to the mission of the Sanitation Support Fund Program.