**-Location/site: Ambohimalaza, Ambohiboangy**

**-Date: 27/08/2019**

**-Interviewer (initials): PRA 003**

**-Time: 15:03**

**-Length of interview: 00:29:48**

**-individual/multiple: individual**

**-Age: 32**

**-disability: no**

**-gender: male**

**-Specific circumstance/observations:**

I have always been living here. I am a farmer but with life now I had to do something else; I am also a driver. Those are what I do for a living.

What part of the nature is the most important to you?

The water is the most important to me for many reasons: it is vital, we need it for agriculture, to drink, for sanitation, food and more. We have always been using water from natural sources, pure water from the mountains. In the late 2000s the village was supplied by the JIRAMA (Electicity and Water Company of the Malagasy government) in water; pumps where installed around the village but it seem people are not really interested in using it. Only few people use it, five households at the most. The pumps are not also working properly. Personally, these pumps are very useful because water from source is becoming scarce and don’t provide enough for the village. The water source is located in the north.

What change have you observed? And when did it start?

I have noticed it for three years now, it because…I don’t know, maybe because of the increase of the number of the inhabitants in the village. There is bad organisation on taking water and some people don’t get enough so they have to go to another source. That is why the JIRAMA supplies are necessary to village. People have to go farther to find other source of water, around the village. The sources are also used to provide water for our fields.

There are so many changes I experience. About or activities, I don’t know maybe because of the environment we have to work harder on the agriculture to meet the needs of the household. May be because of the climate change or something like that. Forests are degrading; let us say what if what I have seen when I was child was 100 %, now it remains around 40% of it. There were eucalyptus plantation around but now it is totally clean. The only place we can find native forest is in Asaomby, the rest is made of eucalyptus plantation. We used to play around the Rova, but that was eucalyptus plantation. Nowadays, children are only playing in the field where they can find trees like guava trees.

There a so many reasons for this change. For expel slash and burn, globalization, asphalt road...there were no car noises ten years ago and now we can hear car each 5 seconds. Things must change.

We had so many eucalyptus and agave and now they are gone. The land owners cut them down or remove it because they find no interests in keeping it around. Agave is important to me, as a peasant, our houses have thatched roof, and we need agave fibres to tie the straws together. There are many things in the field that need to be tied. It is very useful.

So what impact has that change on your well-being?

There was a forest where we used to play. And now it remains a memory, I feel lick home sick. This has a bad effect on me because something that was visually and emotionally attractive to me has disappeared. There was a forest just tight there but you see it is now a parking place for these bulldozers.

What also makes me feel sad is that I grew up here but we don’t own so much land here. We only have this place where our house stands, the house where our elderlies lived in. It feels like we are representing some obstacles to the people that came lately and bought the lands here. They reject us.

Personally, nature is everything, animals, everything from livestock and agriculture. So if the situation gets worse, that because we didn’t take care of it or didn’t pay attention to it, It will have a bad impact on me because all of what I have mentioned complete me as a human beings. I feel incomplete when there is not nature around. I don’t know how to explain it. The presence of nature around represents so much to my like. Biodiversity like plants are very important to me. Plants help a lot to have peaceful mind. To me, living in quiet place with nature would be better than living in large community. Large community doesn’t provide serenity as the nature does.

Are there any traditional practices connected to nature here?

There is a Douany not far from here. People are not interested in it anymore. It is located in north side of the forest in Asaomby. There is also another Douany in the south. There are people going there but they are not from the village. People are not going there because of globalization and religion.

How about the change on biodiversity?

I don’t know, I don’t remember. I heard there is fosa around here. I have never seen one though. We can hear it at night. They are famous, they are not common animals. People here are mostly famers so we don’t really know about the biodiversity.

I would say the forest will completely disappear in 20 or 30 years. We can still survive with the amount of water we have at the moment but we will struggle for sure in the future because of the change on the rainy season. Shortage comes in September, if you don’t go early in the morning to the source, you will have to wait some time to get water.

Are there any specific places to visit here?

In Asaomby and here, especially on day off. There is a big stone that people really like here. It is constantly visited. There is now better access because of the roads. I go there 4 or 5 times a week because it is on way to work. It is called Ambatobe. You will enjoy this place; there is fresh air and you have a beautiful sight of the fields down there. It is located 10 minutes from here if you take this road. Because the place is located inside my boss’ proprieties, we heard that the government has the project of transforming it into a stone quarry. They should not. I try to convince my boss to reject that because a lot of people like going there.

So what impact has that change on your well-being?

In the suburbs, we still live with fresh air even if cars are driving around. We heard that the company “gasy plast” were planned to be constructed in the city but is has a lot of negative impacts on the environment so they built it here. We don’t like have it around and we want it to be removed.

When I come from Antananarivo, I feel my brain like frozen or numb; I have headaches because of the air of the city. I used to breathing fresh air from here; and is a big advantage of living here. I would prefer here than downtown