**-Location/site: Andovoranto**

**-Date: 02/09/2019**

**-Interviewer (initials): PRA 015**

**-Time: 14:15**

**-Length of interview: 00:36:54**

**-individual/multiple: individual**

**-Age: 65**

**-disability: no**

**-gender: male**

**-Specific circumstance/observations:**

I lived here for 12 years. I am both from Antananarivo and from here. My mother was born here. I was born here. My father worked at the train station of Moramanga so we moved there. I studied in Moramanga, then in Toamasina, then worked in Fenerive Est, did the national service in Toamasina and then worked again in Toamasina. Lately, I work in Antananarivo for the CIBA (Complexe ndustriel du Bois d’Andasibe).

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

The village is famous for fish, sea fish or fresh water fish. The most important to me is the history of the village. The nature is already overexploited. Concerning the weather, we always had too much rain. People are mainly farmers and fishermen. I don’t fish. I am a teacher at the secondary school of the village.

Do you teach something about the nature to your students?

I do?

And how students understand it?

I taught in different places, in private school in Moramanga, in Anivoka, Andasibe, I gave private lessons to my boss’ children. What I have concluded is that children are not interested in the nature or the natural environment. I don’t know why? Maybe because they don’t understand its importance. There are so many things they should now about the nature but they don’t want to know. I am a teacher, educating teenagers. Form the 6th to the 3rd class; the students have no idea about what they want to do in the future. They just follow global changes. Teenagers should be interested in taking care and taking responsibility on the nature, not urinate everywhere to prevent diseases from spreading. Here when people clean the house the use to throwing the dust and trash into the ocean. You stain the water and then you fish there and what? We are poisoning ourselves.

How about the water?

We usually use manual pumps located in five parcels: three in Ambalamangazo, one in the hospital and one inside the public school. There are more in the village. Drinking water is still safe because we take it from underground. Some people use wells, but the inconvenient is that those are not covered so it tends to get dirty.

Do you have any favourite place here?

In Ambinany. It is very calm and the view is astonishing. I also worked as a guide for the hotel “the cocotiers” so I went there so often. Every time tourists come here, I try to convince them to go to see Ambinany. There is also the old cemetery where some colon still buried. It located in the north, 1.5 kilometres from here. When I go to Ambinany I feel joy. The nature is more or less exploited here, there is nothing specific to observe. It is a suburb; there is no job for everyone. All unemployed people exploit the forest. Besides, firewood is vital to the population.

The Pangalane was a pride of the village, for excursion. That made the Pangalane famous. There is not much traffic on it anymore. Boats were sailing from Toamasina to Mananjary during the president Ratsiraka mandate; it was interesting. There were also commercial boats transporting graphite. The Pangalane was animated.

It is nice to have to Pangalane because Andovoranto looks more of a small Island.

How to manage to survive the cyclones?

This is a good question. The village is threatened. The sea and the Pangalane are swallowing shores and there are not enough trees to keep the soil. Beside, land masses are made of sand. The elderlies said that during the here 1800, the shore was located 2 kilometres from here. Now it is not even at 500 metres but 100 meters from the road. During the cyclone, the village is flooded from both sides.

I don’t know who should take responsibilities, the inhabitants or the government. I mean, we as inhabitants we are powerless. We have to live with the change and whatever natural phenomenon. The Mayor should know all that. We should build border protection like in Mahajanga or Toamasina. People just try to survive what is happening and take no concrete action. We are just waiting for the government.

What do you think cause those changes?

Overexploitation, we cut without restoring. I always teach my students, it should be five trees planted for one tree down. They don’t get it. They are conscious about the situation but take not responsibility. There is no reforestation program. If you come across intact forests on the way to the village, it must be inside a private property.

Are there any traditional practices connected to nature here?

Yes, you see this. It is called a fisokona; there is a dark pole inside. Each head of the family has this in its yard. It is like the joro to ask benediction from the dead. I don’t know about the species but it is surrounded by hasina. The hasina protect the pole. It is precious to the betsimisaraka ethnic group to ask benediction from the dead. Zebu also takes an important place to life so zebu ’skull is placed on top of it.

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

The change is a bad thing. It is not getting better. In contrary, it is getting worse. Andovoranto went from being a district to a fokontany when the colons left. I feel really sad about the changes and about the mentality of people here. We will never be able to take responsibility for the nature.