



Nr.3, May 13th 2004

MWC - MADAGASCAR WILDLIFE CONSERVATION NEWSLETTER

www.mwc-info.net

▪ WEBSITE UPDATED

Our website has changed! The service on news and events is no longer provided. Instead we have created the new section “travel and help”. Here first we recommend destinations in Madagascar, which we consider to be suitable for nature tourism. Second, if visiting Madagascar is not enough for you, but you would like to work there for a conservation or humanitarian organisation, we provide information and links for volunteering possibilities in Madagascar and other destinations as well. Furthermore, the section “projects” has been divided into our project(s) and that of other organisations working in Madagascar.

▪ NEWS FROM PROJECT ANDREBA

As soon as MWC was founded last year we started our first project (also described on our website). We proposed to the people of Andreba to help them to bring nature tourism to their village, in order to improve the standard of living in the village and at the same time to save the surrounding marshes on Lac Alaotra from being destroyed and the inhabiting Alaotran Gentle Lemur from being extinct. MWC therefore proposed the construction of accommodations and the building of a guiding service on the Lake Alaotra. One of our members now just came back from the village, bearing a positive answer from the people of Andreba, which means this project is definitely started. So our next steps now are on one hand to provide the required infrastructure, that is the distribution of the tasks (like the construction of a house, nomination and schooling of guides) among the people of Andreba and on the other hand the collection of funds in Europe. MWC and the people of the village are very excited about this and are grateful for your help.

▪ SOLAR COOKING

“Soltec” is a German-Malagasy organization, which provides construction sets for solar ovens at a low price (60 Swiss Francs). These ovens are comprised of big boxes coated with reflecting foil on the inside. If exposed to the sun, they heat up up to 100 degrees and can be used to cook (everything except pasta). MWC now plans as a second project to collaborate with “Ades” the organization, which

represents “Soltec” in Switzerland, in that we want to purchase some of these solar cookers and bring them to Madagascar, starting once again with the village of Andreba. For more information about solar ovens please visit (<http://www.adesolaire.org/>).

▪ **WORKSHOP NEAR BERLIN**

On April 17th, the German association Kintana invited MWC and 46 other organizations working in Madagascar and in other destinations to a workshop in Liepe near Berlin (Germany). The main goal of this meeting was to discuss possibilities for shared fund raising, because for small organisations it is said to be easier if they work together in this regard. Unfortunately MWC was the only organization to follow this invitation and therefore the goal was not reached. Nevertheless it was a good opportunity to discuss the topic of humanitarian and conservational work in Madagascar with (one) other company sharing our ideas and problems. We intend to keep contact and presumably to collaborate with Kintana on a later occasion. For more information about Kintana please visit (<http://www.tourismus-madagaskar.de/>). We also met Nick Blume there, who is currently looking for goods to fill a container, which he intends to bring to the village of Tampina (near Tamatave). If you have anything (like clothes, shoes, child games, books, etc.) to contribute, please contact: nickblume@msn.com. The container will be sent from Hamburg (Germany) by ship next July to Madagascar.

That is all for now. We will keep you informed about further developments in Andreba. In the meantime we would be happy, if you would visit our homepage from time to time.

Best
MWC-Team



The village of Andreba with Lac Alaotra in the background