

# Project Newsletter

September 26, 2022



A photograph of the world's largest species of baobab tree, *Adansonia grandidieri*, towering over burned forest in Kirindy Mitea National Park, Madagascar – striving for survival.

## Important Update

Thanks to the generosity of our supporters, we have reached our fundraising goal! We are delighted to announce that our Global Grant application was formally submitted to Rotary International, and our project launch is tentatively scheduled for January, 2023. While we had planned to launch sooner, District 9220 advised us to meet with another Host Club and we have developed a strong partnership. We are thrilled to begin our work in Madagascar in the new year! Please look forward to stories, photographs, and other updates from our project lead: Domenic Romanello (pictured right).

## Pledges

Checks payable to the Rotary Foundation (memo line: GG2233970) should now be sent to Pam Ray at 2022 Beeson Road, Oak Ridge, NC 27310.



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# Project Details

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## The Park

Kirindy Mitea National Park is one of the largest areas of protected dry forest in Madagascar, and contains some of the largest continuous tracts of dry forest remaining in the country! It is home to a high diversity of plants and animals threatened by habitat loss and overexploitation. Our goal is to establish a sustainable biodiversity monitoring initiative in Kirindy Mitea National Park to protect the lemurs, fosa, chameleons, and other wonderful species that call this park home.



A photograph of a local community member/research assistant studying the lemurs of Kirindy Mitea National Park.

## Vocational Training

One major component of our initiative is vocational training. Malagasy graduate students and community members local to Kirindy Mitea National Park will be trained to sustainably monitor and protect the park's biodiversity.



A photograph of a baby lemur, *Propithecus verreauxi*, beginning life in Kirindy Mitea National Park, Madagascar.

## Our Mission

To improve the conservation of biodiversity in Kirindy Mitea National Park, Madagascar by:

- **TRAINING** local community members and Malagasy graduate students to sustainably monitor and protect the park's biodiversity.
- **TRACKING** the population size of threatened and endangered lemurs in the park.
- **DOCUMENTING** habitat loss through remote sensing.
- **ASSESSING** poverty and human well-being in communities surrounding the park.
- **PROVIDING** supplies and infrastructure necessary to monitor biodiversity sustainably in the park.

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# Contact Information

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## Primary Contacts

### International Club

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### Host Club

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### Volunteer Traveler

Domenic Romanello  
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Members of the International Club for our Global Grant Initiative holding the flag of Madagascar: The Rotary Club of Kernersville, North Carolina.



The wonderful members of the Host Club for our Global Grant Initiative, The Rotary Club of Antananarivo Maroloko, Madagascar.

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