

# Grow For It | 2nd Year Update

## Reforestation Report

### Antsanitia 2 - Madagascar

January 2020 - June 2021



Eden Reforestation Projects  
PLANT TREES | SAVE LIVES



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## Antsanitia 2 - Madagascar

### Summary

Antsanitia 2 is situated 24 km outside of the bustling port city of Mahajanga, Madagascar. This site serves as an extensive system of mangrove forests and brackish river channels that help feed local communities through numerous fisheries that fill the warm waters.

Unfortunately, many native people cut down their forests due to resource poverty to produce charcoal to sell at local markets to provide for their families. Thus, over time, there are only fragmented forests with depleting resources and few remaining economic alternatives.

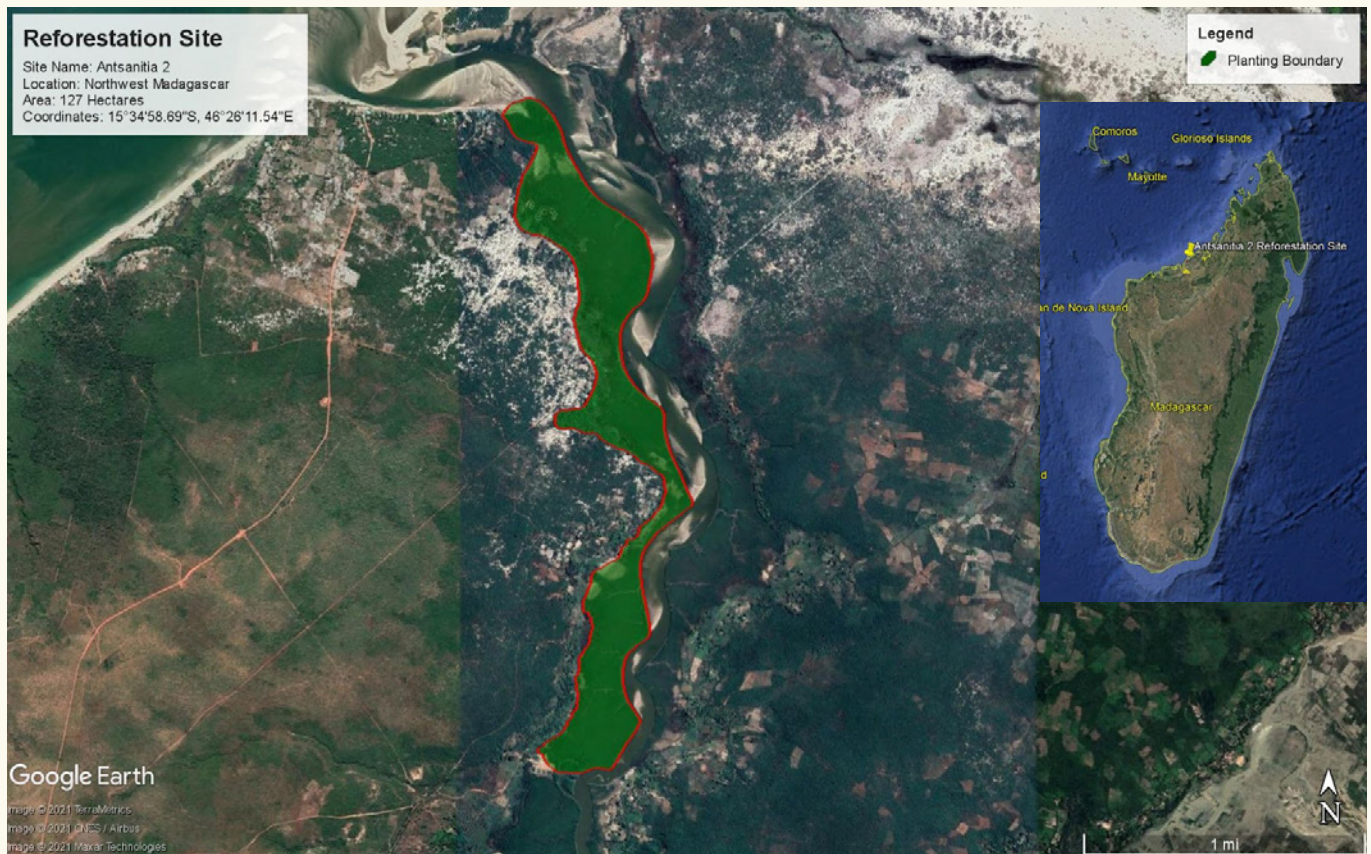
Two years ago, Eden Reforestation Projects (Eden) and the local communities saw the need to intervene and provide a more sustainable future for the people dependent on these mangrove forests. Thanks to the generous support from Grow For It, Eden Madagascar provides 37 people with long-term employment, tackling the root cause of deforestation in this region. In addition, Grow For It has funded the planting of 1,261,800 mangrove trees to restore the native ecosystem in the Antsanitia estuary.

Forest Type	Coordinates	Planting Density	Area of Reforestation Site	Planting Capacity
Mangrove	15°34'58.69"S, 46°26'11.54"E	20,000+ Trees/ Hectares	127 hectares	3+ million trees

Thriving mangroves at the Antsanitia 2 reforestation site.









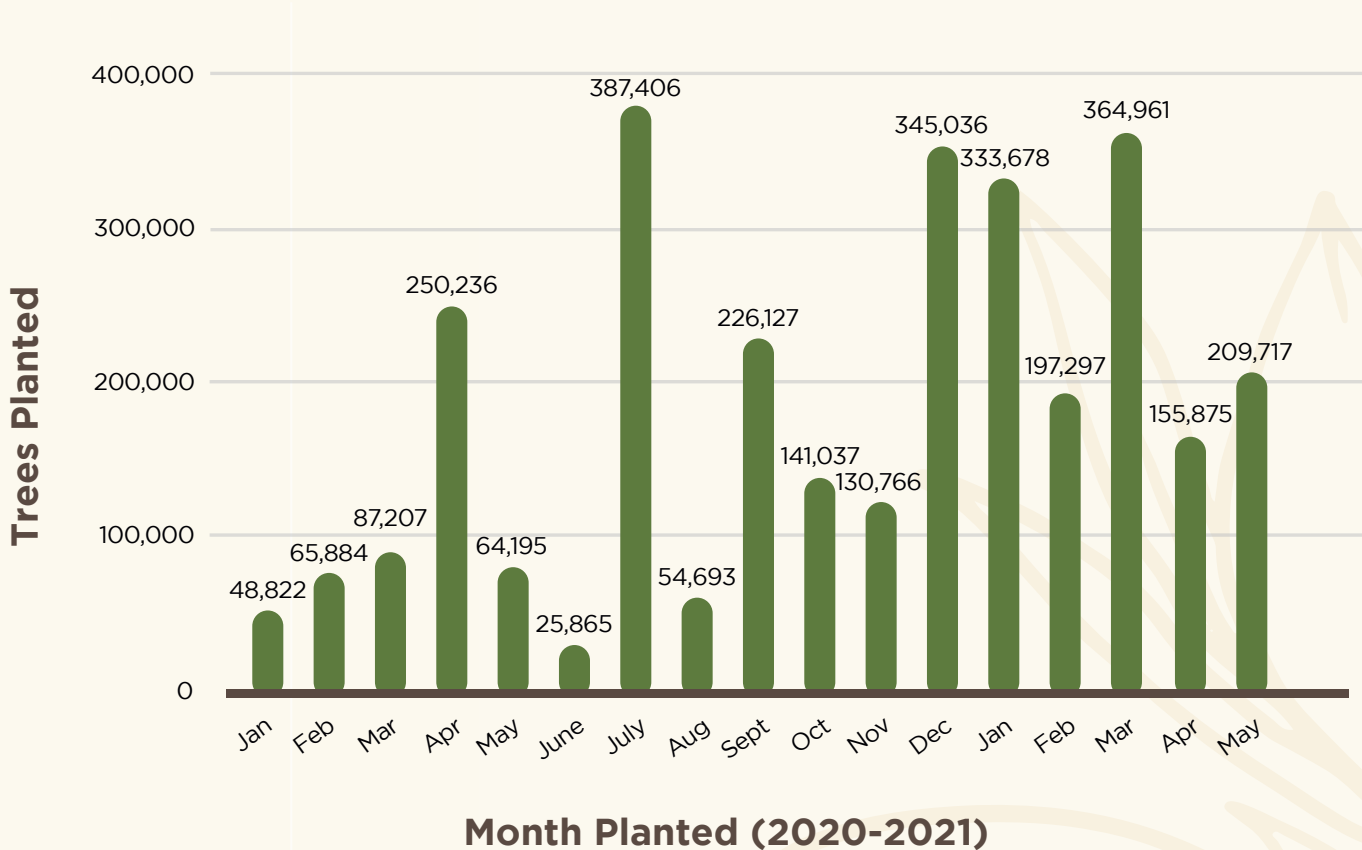
# Moraharivo Reforestation Progress

Planting has been occurring at the Antsanitia 2 reforestation site since January 2020. Since then, our teams have learned much about the importance of protecting their landscape not only for themselves but for future generations as well. Planting and monitoring remain ongoing to fulfill the contractual obligation. Our planting managers have learned that when planting at a higher density (15,000 - 20,000+ trees/hectare), we experience the most tremendous success in reestablishing a natural forest system that will provide the most significant amount of ecosystem services to the local people. We maintain our high survival rate of about 84%, based on our field team's survival studies.

The global pandemic has undoubtedly taken its toll in Madagascar, presenting many difficulties. From February 2021 until the end of May 2021, Mahajanga experienced a severe COVID-19 outbreak that impacted many of our planting and office staff. This outbreak resulted in strict lockdowns that severely limited our monitoring team's data collection capabilities from surveys. Eden Madagascar has proven to be resilient and is happy to report that with the proper safety measures, a total of 3,088,802 mangrove trees were planted at this site. In addition, Eden funded all additional planting above the contracted agreement (1,827,002 trees) to ensure sustained employment for the staff involved in this project.

## Antsanitia 2: Monthly Planting Numbers

Sponsored By Grow For It







# Progress Photos

**Photo 1:** Established mangroves growing at the reforestation site.



**Photo 2:** Mangroves that were planted at the beginning phases of the reforestation project showing clear signs of growth.





**Photo 3:** An extensive patch of planted mangroves at the Antsanitia 2 reforestation site.







**Photo 4:** Eden Madagascar staff member collecting mangrove propagules to plant at the reforestation site.



**Photo Album Link:** [Grow For It Planting Album](#)



Tree Species Planted at the Restoration Site.

Species	Description	Photo
<i>Avicennia marina</i>	<i>Avicennia marina</i> grows as a shrub or tree to a height of three to ten meters, or up to 14 meters in tropical regions. The habit is a gnarled arrangement of multiple branches. It has smooth light-grey bark made up of thin, stiff, brittle flakes.	
<i>Rhizophora mucronata</i>	<i>Rhizophora mucronata</i> is a small to medium-size evergreen tree growing to a height of about 20 to 25 meters (66 to 82 ft) on the banks of rivers. On the sea's fringes, 10 or 15 meters (33 or 49 ft) is a more typical height. The tallest trees are closest to the water, and shorter trees are further inland. The tree has a large number of aerial stilt roots buttressing the trunk.	
<i>Ceriops tagal</i>	<i>Ceriops tagal</i> is a medium-sized tree growing to a height of 25 meters (80 ft) with a trunk diameter of up to 45 cm (18 in). The growth habit is columnar or multi-stemmed, and the tree develops large buttress roots. The radiating anchor roots are sometimes exposed and may loop up in places. The bark is silvery-grey to orangish-brown, smooth with occasional pustular lenticels.	
<i>Bruguiera gymnorhiza</i>	<i>Bruguiera gymnorhiza</i> is a small tree up to 10 meters (33 ft) high that belongs to the family Rhizophoraceae. It is found on the seaward side of mangrove swamps, often in the company of Rhizophora. Its bark is rough and reddish-brown. The tree develops short prop-roots rather than long stilt-roots.	



# Antsanitia Socioeconomic Impacts

Eden offers steady employment to 37 community members who previously had little or no income through this project. As a result, the local community is empowered financially by restoring their land, catalyzing economic and ecological restoration at the same time. The jobs created include planters, forest guards, and site managers. Having a steady income allows Eden workers to put savings aside, invest in their households, start microenterprises to diversify their income opportunities, and provide healthcare for their families. Some significant socioeconomic impacts include improved diets and health due to purchasing nutritious food and the ability to pay for school fees and send their children to school. Additionally, they can buy simple items that significantly improve their quality of life, such as beds, mattresses, solar panels, and radios. Finally, this steady income empowers them to plan for the future and work towards purchasing land and building houses that will be a legacy for future generations.





## Future Outlook

With the continued support from Grow For It, Eden looks forward to researching the long-term positive impacts of our reforestation sites. We are excited for the increased capabilities to study the environments that we work in to have the most successful results and significantly impact the local communities. We are grateful for your generous support to help us fulfill our mission to plant trees and save lives.

