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ANDREW LEES TRUST 1995-2010

2010 marks the completion of the Andrew Lees Trust’s education programme in Southern Madagascar. During fifteen years we have endeavoured to reflect the inspiration and aspirations of our namesake. Andrew Lees, by empowering local people to help themselves and placing the solutions to natural resource management, environmental protection, food security and health in their hands.

Providing local people with essential resources – such as seeds, trees, stoves, radios, broadcast equipment – and training to utilise them, we have enabled thousands of villagers to increase food harvests in the face of drought, manage diminishing fuel resources, stabilise land, replant forests and learn about important development topics and services via radio.

This year we celebrate the Trust’s achievements and, most importantly, its transition to a Malagasy owned and led organisation. Andry Lalana Tohana (ALT Mg) was officially launched in 2009 and began its own strategic programme in the south.

The skills and resources now present in Southern Madagascar, both within the local communities and the ALT Mg team, represent a tangible legacy of local ownership and capacity that will continue to bear fruit into the future.

We will work in collaboration with ALT Mg, continue to provide technical advice and source funding to assist their development. We welcome support from those who share our vision of local empowerment and ownership, and we hope to have opportunities to communicate the evolution and successes of Andry Lalana Tohana for many years to come.

MISSION STATEMENT

The Andrew Lees Trust aims to provide social and environmental education projects which empower local populations in southern Madagascar to improve their self sufficiency and reduce the effects of extreme poverty.

The Trust is also committed to building the capacity of local professionals who can identify, design and implement appropriate development strategies and projects for their region.

INTRODUCTION

Southern Madagascar presents many development challenges, not least because of regular drought in the deep south, lack of infrastructure, economic hardships, isolation, and low literacy rates.

The natural environment is under increasing pressure from a growing population with more than three quarters of the forest already lost, mostly to slash and burn farming. Over 80% of the population are local producers who live off the land and a survey of local people in 2009 by UNDP placed agricultural information above all other communication needs.

WHERE IT BEGAN

The Trust began in 1995 by helping to launch the Centre Ecologique Libanona (CEL), an environmental training centre in Ft Dauphin, Southern Madagascar. Over six years the Trust directly supported the Centre by providing funds to help renovate buildings, pay for teachers and administrators, give bursaries to students, and send books and teaching materials.

An independent Malagasy NGO, the CEL now offers the only university level environmental training centre in Southern Madagascar. The Trust continues to provide annual student bursaries to environment students in the names of Andrew Lees and Marek Mayer.

ALT’S DEVELOPMENT PROGRAMME

In 1999 the Trust became hands on in Madagascar and designed and developed a field programme which put education, training and access to information at its core.

Building the capacity of local people has been a vital part of the work, together with a commitment to create synergy and maximise benefits through partnership and collaboration.

The Trust’s principle activities are summarised as:

Communications for Development using radio to deliver information and education on all themes of development
- Project Radio
- Project Radio SIDA and oral testimony to give ‘voice’ to local people
- Project HEP

Environment and Food Security adopting an integrated approach with emphasis on improved farming and natural resource management
- Project Energy
- Drought Mitigation Programme
- Apeomba Soa
- Emergency Relief Programme

The Centre Ecologique Libanona was dedicated to the memory of Andrew Lees in 1995.
COMMUNICATIONS FOR DEVELOPMENT:
EDUCATION VIA RADIO & ORAL TESTIMONY

Project Radio

The primary aim of this project has been to deliver cost effective non formal education and information via radio to empower non literate rural producers, women and children to improve food security, and reduce the effects of extreme poverty in Southern Madagascar.

The project has trained local journalists, NGO field agents and service providers to produce educational radio programmes on all themes of development including farming, fishing, forestry, animal husbandry, energy efficiency, education, health, and HIV Aids. It has improved radio infrastructure and broadcast capacity; created regional communications networks for development broadcasting across five regions; and distributed solar/wind up radio to over 3000 village communities, affording a public service broadcast system to bring education to at least three quarters of a million listeners in some of the poorest and most isolated parts of the country. The project has successfully transferred its production studios to local partners, including ALT Mg, who continue to produce and broadcast educational programmes on a monthly basis.

Summary results

- 15 local communications specialists trained
- 1100 field agents/partners trained in communications techniques
- 3250 educational radio programmes produced and broadcast
- 3370 radio listening groups set up with wind up radios
- 5 regional productions studios set up
- 5 regional communications networks created
- 10 NGOs and service providers, and 40 radio stations associated in regional networks
- 40 radio stations technically upgraded and trained
- 2 local FM radio stations (Tsiombe and Ejeda) launched

Additional partnerships

- UNICEF – health programming in Ejeda
- British Embassy and American Embassy – trainings, technical supports (4 grants)
- FAC – radio programme to accompany water project
- USAID/PACT – good governance radio programming in Fianarantsoa
- USAID feasibility study – ‘radio corridor’
- UNICEF technical study – radio communications for sanitation programme
- UNDP – communications for empowerment, national strategic study and report
- CARE – radio programme production
- ACCORDS (EC) strategy and radio programme production
- Communities and staff also participated in ALT Project HEPA

Project Radio SIDA

ALT was invited by the Committee Nationale de Lutte Contre le SIDA (CNLS), the national HIV AIDS awareness council in Madagascar to build on the success of Project Radio and develop HIV radio programming for the south; distribute 2000 radios and set up listening groups across Tulear and Fianarantsoa Provinces as part of its national HIV radio campaign; and deliver training to CNLS regional co-ordinators and trainers in radio distribution and participatory programme production on HIV themes.

As with Project Radio, a participative approach has been used in order to research local beliefs, attitudes and behaviours in order to produce locally appropriate and effective programming. The programmes have been made in local languages (Androy and Analo) to maximise interest and understanding, and pre-tested with listening groups before broadcast.

Summary results

- 78+ HIV awareness programmes produced and broadcast
- 2000 radios distributed to listening groups
- 2 local producers/trainers trained in HIV programming
- 16 local journalists trained in HIV radio programming techniques
- 10 regional CNLS co-ordinators trained in listening group set up/management
- 10 CNLS regional trainers trained in participatory production cycle (UNICEF funded)

Additional partnerships

- Mini soap opera produced in Antandroy language
- Full evaluation of SIDA programmes carried out
- Full evaluation of radio distribution effected
- Shared findings at national level
- Local events – assisted PSI with distribution of 3000 condoms at music events in south
- Produced training manual for CNLS national campaign and local journalists
- Identified as a best practice partner by CNLS
- Additional radio programmes with ALT’s Drought Mitigation Programme

Additional radio programmes

- Project Radio

Budget: GBP 1592,500
(Funded by EC, DFID and national partners)

Timescale: 1998-2009
6 month feasibility study, plus 3 phases over 10 years

Target Area: 8 regions in 2 provinces (Tulear and Fianarantsoa)

Beneficiaries: minimum of 703,750
estimate over 800,000 listeners
due to increased radio ownership since the project began

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Additional radio programmes

- Project Radio

Budget: GBP 148,000
(CNLS – World Bank funded)

Timescale: 2003-2009
three phases, 2003-4, 2004-5 and 2006-7

Target Area: Tulear province

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Additional radio programmes

- Project Radio
Project HEPA: Oral Testimony

Projet Hepa was launched in collaboration with Panos London in 2007 to increase the voice of local populations, and to improve awareness about the knowledge and experience of indigenous people in southern Madagascar. HEPA is an abbreviation of Hetahetam-Po Ambara signifying “Proclaim what is in your heart”.

The project benefitted from the expertise of Panos in training villagers from communities in Androy and Anosy, as well as project staff, to collect oral testimonies using film and recordings of life stories. The testimonies have been edited into short films and published in print and online. They have been distributed widely to decision makers regionally, nationally and internationally to catalyse debate about development challenges and solutions in S Madagascar.

The testimonies have helped to draw attention to a wide variety of issues related to local development and especially with regard to the impacts of mining in the Anosy region. Additional testimonies have been collected in Bema, Androy to contribute to the IFAD World Poverty Report 2010.

Summary results
- 8 village interviewers in oral testimony collection trained
- 8 village film makers trained
- 6 ALT staff trained in oral testimony techniques
- 54 oral testimonies collected (Anosy)
- 13 radio programmes made
- 5 films produced (Androy)
- 2 Anosy and 4 Androy testimonies published online
- Published voices for change (Anosy) book in 3 languages
- 21,000 e-recipients networked through PANOS, COMINIT and ALT
- Film showings; Ambavoerbe town, regional TV, indigenous people festival and Copenhagen Climate Change Summit 2009
- Regional meeting with decision makers about testimony content (Androy)

Additional partnerships and activity
- Launched a local cultural association for the people of Anosy
- Seed grant enabled communities in Androy to plant trees and stabilise dunes
- 7 more testimonies collected in Androy for the IFAD Poverty review 2010

ENVIRONMENT AND FOOD SECURITY

Project Energy – Fuel Efficiency Programme

The project launched in 1999 to bring fuel efficiency training to women in rural areas of southern Madagascar, in particular to train them to build a fuel efficient stove – the ‘Toko Mitsitsy’—TM – which can produce fuel savings of up to 65%, whilst also reducing the amount of time spent by women searching for firewood (30-70%) or family income spent purchasing fuel (20-60%). The project also produced training materials and a radio marketing campaign in local language which mobilised thousands of women across the south to participate in trainings and stove building.

The TM stove has proven easy and adaptable to use with alternative fuels such as maize husks and sorghum stalks. The TM stove boils water in a quarter of the time of traditional open stoves and frees women up to develop economic activity such as weaving and baking. Wood saved per 2500 stoves in use is accruing at approximately 5,342 tons per annum.

Stove trainings continued under the Lottery funded Drought Mitigation Programme and will be carried forward by ALT Madagascar.

Summary Results
- 36,838 fuel efficient stoves built by women
- 124 fokontany trainers trained
- 15 specialised Malagasy stove trainers
- 28 partnerships networked to the project and benefiting from training
- 703 trainings carried out
- 75 radio programmes made
- 1 full evaluation carried out
- Local tree nursery launched
- 5080 trees grown and sold/distributed

Additional partnerships and activity
- 9000 stoves built in Mahafaly region (Climate Care)
- World Food programme – ‘food for training’ provided to relieve food security problems for families in hunger gap/‘Kere’ season
- Peace Corps volunteers trained for national sharing of stove methodology
- Launch of stove training via World Food Programme in the capital, Antananarivo
- WWF interim funding and activity in 2001 (interim phase)

Produced stove building manual
Drought Mitigation Programme

The project was launched in December 2005 to address the need to increase food security and create livelihoods, whilst also promoting improved natural resource management at local level. The project has set up and worked with farming associations to reintroduce sorghum as a main crop, educating and enabling families to grow and use seed varieties that are drought resistant and that can provide fodder and fuel, as well as food.

Other important components of the project have included: tree planting at family level to help secure formal land tenure and to provide fruit produce for families; the launch of a commercial plantation to help stabilise poor soil areas, and provide employment and food produce; HIV AIDS awareness radio programming and activities.

The project’s success attracted the interest of the Ministry of Agriculture and the team were asked to provide training for government field agents to implement sorghum reintroduction as part of the National ‘Green Revolution’. The Regional Authorities also requested that the project extend into new communes, which helped to secure funding for a second phase, Apemba Soa.

Summary results
- 1500 people given access to improved sorghum seed
- 335 women trained in nutritional techniques around sorghum
- 92 tons of sorghum seed produced
- 425 more fuel efficient stoves built
- 23,111 trees sold/distributed via the ALT tree nursery
- 5000 local plantation workers employed
- 12 hectares of castor bean, cashew and coconut trees planted up
- 4000 castor plants harvested by the end of project (May 09)
- 12 sorghum festivals organised
- 376 radio programmes produced
- 620 beneficiaries of HIV training events
- 53% higher average food consumption for beneficiary families during the hunger gap.

Additional partnerships and activity
- Radio HIV campaign (see Project Radio SIDA)
- Training for regional partners in sorghum distribution
- Regional TV showings of sorghum festivals
- Launch of Vorono Kodoho commercial plantation
- Communities and staff also participated in ALT Project HEPA

Apemba Soa

‘Apemba Soa’ Project (AS), meaning ‘Good Sorghum’, has extended the work of the Drought Mitigation programme. Its principle objective has been to improve food security by increasing the production of drought resistant sorghum as well as the number of households stocking and consuming sorghum as food. Additionally the project has increased awareness about the nutritional benefits of sorghum by providing cooking and preparation techniques which enable women to improve daily intake of food.

The sorghum reintroduction work is extended and carried forward by the ALT Madagascar team under an IFAD funded project, PARECAM.

Summary results
- 1280 families have received seed and technical training
- 64 farming trainers trained
- 58 nutritional trainings with 1156 participants
- 1929 kg of sorghum seed distributed
- 1800 kg of peas distributed
- 165 tonnes of sorghum produced
- 478,25 ha of sorghum cultivated
- 9 sorghum festivals produced, with approx 2000 people per festival
- 134 radio programmes produced and broadcast about sorghum

Additional partnerships and activity
- Produced visual recipe book for cooking with sorghum
- Participated in National Nutrition Day event
- Televised events with regional stations
- Exchange visits between farmers from different regions
- Collaboration with Regional Authorities and FAO for food /seed distribution
- Partnerships with the national office for Nutrition ONN
Dunes stabilisation

ALT began to tackle the problem of dunes as early as 2002. With funding from the British Embassy in Madagascar and assistance from the World Food Programme ‘Food for work’ it was able to mobilise communities to stabilise dunes in the deep south of the Androy region where sands were quickly covering villages, agricultural fields and ancestral tombs. The project enabled 90% of the 3500 metres of dunes to be stabilised with sisal and creeping vines and planted 1000 causerina trees. Monitoring of the dunes some years later demonstrated positive results. This experience has proved invaluable in extending the work under an Emergency Relief Programme:

Emergency Relief Programme

Thanks to funding from Balcombe Trust, ALT has been able to implement an emergency relief programme that has engaged local communities in ‘money for food for work’. This programme mobilises and engages local people in projects that enable them to address pressing environmental issues – dune formation, deforestation and water storage. They are paid a day rate for their participation, which helps them to buy food during the ‘hunger gap’ when drought and food shortages hit hardest. Because local people gain a wage from the project work, the whole family benefits from food purchased.

The project is directed locally by ALT’s Technical Adviser, Steven Lellelid, and is currently managed by ALT Mg, under a collaborative agreement with ALT UK.

Summary results

Phase 1
- 4,867 workers employed on day rates = approx 20,000 indirect beneficiaries
- 27 dunes stabilised
- 43 water capture basins excavated
- 5300 trees planted around the dams
- 68 hectares of forest replanted with tree seedlings/cuttings
- 86,000 tree seedlings and cuttings planted
- 300,000 sisal plants planted
- 15,000 ipomoia (lalanda)

Phase 2
- 13,425 workers on day rates = approx 70,000 indirect beneficiaries
- 55 dunes prepared for planting: with 16,252 beach beans plants and 3656 creeping vine
- 526 sites excavated and basins planted 9400 cubic metres of basins for water capture
- 126,425 tree cuttings planted on 114 hectares across 5 sites

Forward 2011
- 4,867 workers employed on day rates = approx 20,000 indirect beneficiaries
- 27 dunes stabilised
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BALCOMBE TRUST

Andry Lalana Tohana (ALT Mg)

Andrew Lees believed in empowering local people to find their own solutions to their social and environmental challenges. The Trust’s work has therefore included a commitment to build the capacity of ALT’s Malagasy team to take on the longer term strategic development of the ALT programme in Southern Madagascar.

After three years of preparation, Andry Lalana Tohana, ALT Mg, was launched in 2009 as an independently managed Malagasy NGO. It is made up of 28 staff and core members of the Malagasy team who benefit from ten years of working under the auspices of ALT UK. Consequently they have significant field and managerial experience, working on projects funded by high ranking donors including the EC, UN agencies, DFID, and USAID. They have demonstrated they possess the professional capacity that makes them a leading force in the development sector in southern Madagascar. Many funders who supported ALT UK are now extending grants to ALT Mg. They have successfully secured funding for 2009-2011 and are applying their specialised field skills to deliver:

The ALT Madagascar Programme 2009-2011

- Sanitation Programme
  Launch 73 listening groups with 876 members in Anosy and Androy
  UNICEF funded  Oct 2009 - April 2010

- Fuel Efficient Stoves
  Build 100 stoves in 35 school canteens in Androy
  World Food Programme  May 2010 - July 2010 to be extended

- Health Education
  Education by mobile cinema to 8 communes of Betroka
  UNFPA/CNLS  Aug 2010 - Nov 2010 pilot phase

- PARECAM/AROPA Sorghum reintroduction programme
  Extend sorghum production into Bekily and into 10 more communes of Androy

- Seed Production
  Seed production for emergency food security
  FAO  Sept 2010 - April 2011

- Emergency Relief Programme
  Dunes stabilisation, tree planting and water basin construction under a collaborative agreement with ALT UK 2010 - 2011
  Balcombe Trust  April 2010 - Nov 2011
ALT Tree Nursery
The tree nursery was launched by ALT during the Project Energy work in 2003 and was dedicated to Marek Mayer in 2007. It has provided over 30,000 trees and training to local families, school and associations, as well as developing techniques for growing sorghum.

In 2010 the tree nursery was handed over to ALT Mg to assist their long term conservation strategies in the south. The nursery is currently producing thousands of filao causerina sp. seedlings to plant and stabilise dunes for the emergency relief programme in 2011.

Community FM Radio Stations
In 2003 ALT secured funding to launch two community radio stations in Tshiombe and Ejeda. The Ejeda station is based in a Lutheran hospital that provides widespread health care and education in the Mahafay region; the radio education programmes help to promote the hospital’s outreach work, educate the local population on a variety of health topics, and mobilise villagers to take up hospital services.

The station in Tshiombe is based with Association Vorono Kodoho who have been actively working in the Androy region to deliver HIV education and generate livelihoods – including working with ALT to develop a castor oil plantation (see Drought Mitigation programme). The stations continue to produce and broadcast development programmes in their regions.

Anosy Cultural Association
In 2009 Village interviewers and elders who participated in the ALT Panos oral testimony used a seed grant from the project to create and launch an Anosy Cultural Association, ‘Talia Ho Tally Gn Anosy Faharaza’ (Sharing Anosy Traditions). ALT assisted with legal and administrative processes, the launch event, and with producing and distributing the Association’s first newsletter. The Association aims to keep alive the Anosy cultural identity in the face of rapid local development from mining and associated activities.

PROMOTING MALAGASY CULTURE
The Trust has produced events, audiovisual, and printed materials to raise awareness about Madagascar’s culture, traditions and development challenges for local, national and international audiences.

Events
Over five years between 1996-2000 ALT produced an annual cultural event, ‘Madagascar Spirits’ in London to promote the island’s people, unique biodiversity, music and food. These events hosted some of Madagascar’s most prestigious musicians including Tanika, Njava, D’Gary, Modeste and Nogabe, and also afforded opportunities for cultural and environmental networking for individuals and agencies concerned with conservation and development in the country. One year ALT hosted an exhibition of drawings about Madagascar by the artist Chris Robinson, and by village children in the Androy, at the Oxo Tower.

In Madagascar the Trust has actively supported the ‘Rebeke’ music festival in the Androy, a grass roots event that brings together musicians and singers from across the south. It has also ensured that the local languages, music and poetry have featured in its radio programmes, films, festivals and other local events.

Films
The Trust has produced a number of short films about its work in Madagascar, including two films about the radio project, the TM stove project, sorghum festivals and the tree nursery dedication. These have been broadcast on the national television channel in Madagascar, and at events in London and in Europe.

Publications and Presentations
The Trust has presented its work in Madagascar to international conferences e.g. INTRAC and UEA, and to the Anglo Malagasy Society in London. ALT projects have featured in a number of international publications such as Madagascar Conservation & Development and the International Red Cross, as well as in research studies by Farm Radio and GAMOS.
ANDREW LEES (1949-1994) Andrew Lees (1949 - 1994) was a scientist, conservationist and environmental campaigner who became Director of Campaigns at Friends of the Earth. He successfully led a number of high profile international campaigns and went to Madagascar in December 1994 to research a proposed Rio Tinto-ilmenite mine that threatened to eradicate unique littoral forests in the south east of the island. He died whilst filming in the forest of Petriky. The Trust was set up in his memory. Andrew was one of the world’s top environmentalists and his contribution has been recognised in the creation of prestigious environmental and journalism awards, as well as the setting of plaques in Wales, Norfolk and Ft Dauphin S. Madagascar, to remember him. A traditional stone stands on a ‘sacred’ site in the forest where he died and where he is regarded by local people as their ‘ancestor’.

TRUSTEES

MAREK MAYER (1952-2005) was a close friend and colleague of Andrew. He founded the Trust along with Andrew’s partner, Christine Orengo, Andrew’s Senior Researcher Mary Taylor, the Lees family, and Friends of the Earth. Marek helped shape the Trust’s vision and was also an important benefactor to the Trust. In 2007 the Trust honoured his outstanding contribution by dedicating the ALT tree nursery in southern Madagascar to his memory. Listed in the top 100 environmentalists of all time, Marek edited the Environmental Data Services (ENDS) report for over twenty years and was widely regarded as Britain’s best informed environmental journalist.

MARY TAYLOR, Co-Founder of ALT in 1995, was a close colleague of Andrew’s at Friends of the Earth where she was a Senior Research Fellow until 2009. Chair of the Board until 2007, she has been instrumental in orienting and developing the Trust’s environmental policies and ethics. Mary is a climate change and toxic waste researcher/campaigner and continues to provide consultancy to Friends of the Earth, Greenpeace, and European environmental bodies.

CHRISTINE ORENGO, Co-Founder of ALT in 1995, and Andrew’s partner, she has been a driving force in establishing the Trust and creating its first project. She has visited Madagascar regularly to monitor the Trust’s activities and has ensured the Trust’s work has reflected Andrew’s beliefs and his love of nature. A Professor of Computational Biology at UCL she researches protein structures to assist medical research and travels widely to lecture and collaborate with universities around the world.

VOLA PARKER, Trustee since 2003, has a background in financial education, and has helped to develop the ALT Board of Trustees’ activities and capacity. She has also helped to maintain the Trust’s focus on transition to a local Malagasy led organisation and visits the Malagasy team to provide advice and support. She is currently setting up a user friendly online share dealing platform to help people buy and sell shares in companies worldwide.

TONY LONG was a close friend of Andrew Lees and joined the Board after visiting the ALT projects whilst on a WWF mission to Madagascar in 2004. Tony is the Director of WWF European Policy Office and travels from Brussels regularly to attend ALT Board meetings. He has brought his international experience, perspective and professionalism to enhance the Trust’s decision making processes and has assisted in securing funds through his international networks.

RICHARD MARSH became involved in 2003 when he was invited by Marek Mayer to support the Board with the Trust’s strategic planning. He provided mentoring to the ALT Director on change management processes and became a member of the Board in 2006. He has chaired the Trust’s strategy committee. Richard is an environmental and management consultant. He currently manages an environmentally focused social enterprise in Wales that also supports the socially disadvantaged.

PREVIOUS TRUSTEES

Jonathan Lees 1999-2001
Anthony Lees 2001-2004
Blake Lee Harwood 2001-2003

UK MANAGEMENT TEAM

YVONNE ORENGO Director has assisted with the development of the Trust since 1995. She secured funding to launch the ALT field programme in Madagascar from 1999 and subsequently directed and developed the Trust’s activities on the ground over sixty mission trips throughout Madagascar whilst implementing Project Radio. She returned to the UK in 2005 and has been responsible for the overall delivery of the Trust’s programme, fundraising, communications and strategic planning. She has also provided technical advice to the projects, and managed the transition to the Malagasy led NGO Andry Lalana Tohana.

ROSALBA LEONELLI Head of Finance and Operations joined the Trust in 2003 and designed and developed all the financial management and monitoring systems of the Trust. She has trained the Malagasy team in financial practices, provided budgetary advice for proposals, managed all the internal and external audits with national and international auditors, and supported the Trust’s strategic plans through secure and stable handling of its funds. She has also developed the reporting processes for the Board of Trustees and has been a member of the ALT strategy committee.

GERRY DE LISLE Desk Officer joined the Trust as a volunteer in 2003 to assist in all aspects of the Trust’s work. She went on to develop and manage the ‘Project Radio SIDA’ over three years in Madagascar then returned to London as ALT’s UK Desk Officer. She provided support to the field teams and managers, administered the Trust, assisted with fundraising, reports, publicity and events until 2009. Gerry has been a member of the ALT strategy committee. She is now working with the International Guides Association to develop their funding and awareness raising programme in their 100th Anniversary year.

PROJECT MANAGERS

HEATHER BRYANT Joined ALT in 1999 whilst working as a Peace Corps volunteer in Androy. She developed the Trust’s work on community environmental projects in Maine, USA.

OWEN BEATON worked as a close partner of ALT in S Madagascar from 2002. He assisted with research and design of ALT’s food security projects in 2005, and in 2006 joined ALT to manage the Drought Mitigation Project. His success attracted new funding to expand the sorghum programme (Apemba Soa) and it continues to grow under new funding with ALT Madagascar. Owen has also been a member of the ALT strategy committee. He is currently assessing development projects for the Commonwealth Foundation.

CLAIRE BALBO Claire joined the Trust in 2008 to help deliver the radio project’s sustainability strategy. Due to changing circumstances she managed the entire project, including the hand over of regional production studios and radio networks to partners, completing the final phase of the radio project in 2009. Claire also helped to launch a local cultural association and supervised the local publication and launch of the Anosy oral testimony book ‘Voix du Changement’ in Madagascar. She is now working on the UN International Strategy for Disaster Risk Reduction in Addis Ababa.

ERIC FRADIN joined the Trust in 2008 to expand the work of the Drought Mitigation programme under the Apemba Soa (‘good sorghum’) programme and brought significant agronomy skills from his experience of working with farmers in drought affected areas of sub Saharan Africa. He has been extremely committed to the transition of ALT to a Malagasy led NGO and given a great deal of time to help prepare the local team, including additional training of ALT Mg field staff in new project zones, helping to write proposals, and mentoring the management team in situ. He and his family are now living and working in Mozambique.
ALT MANAGEMENT TEAM

HANITRA RAHARIMANANA joined ALT in 2003 as Head of Administration and served all the ALT field projects. She has been instrumental in developing the Trust’s human resource policies in the field. She was elected by her peers to Direct the new Malagasy led organisation in 2009 and has since been responsible for securing funds for ALT Mg, developing relations with national and international funders, and implementing the new ALT Mg programme.

SOSTHENE ROBSON joined ALT in 1999 as Head of Finance and has been responsible for all the local financial management of the Trust’s projects. He has trained and managed a local team of book keepers and helped to develop funding proposals with budgetary advice. He has been responsible for preparing and managing all the local audits with EC auditors and worked closely with the London office to ensure high standards of transparent financial reporting.

CLAUDIA RAKOTOVOAVY joined ALT in 1999 as a Project Assistant. She left in 2002 but returned to ALT in 2006 as the National Representative based in the capital Antananarivo where she has helped to develop and maintain national relations with ministries, donors and partners. She has been pivotal in procuring ALT’s project equipment and vehicles, liaising with shippers, suppliers and negotiating national bureaucratic processes with Ministry officials.

ALT ADVISERS
Mark Fenn Technical Adviser
John Ffooks Legal Adviser
Steve Lellelid Technical Adviser
John Parker Company Secretary
Jeremy Stone Financial Management Accountant

ALT KEY CONSULTANTS
Gordon Adam, Nicola Harford, Mary Myers Media Support Partnership: Radio Production Training and Evaluation
Stewart Boyle Evaluator
Matthew Buck Radio Equipment Supplies, Installation and Training
Ryan Kelley Local Trainer/Member of ALT Strategy Committee
Tito Magrini ALT Photo Library and administrative assistant
Julie Manach Project Assistance, Androy
Leo Metcalf Evaluator/Member of ALT Strategy Committee
Guy Shepherd Importation of radio equipment, vehicles etc

VOLUNTEERS
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Lauren Pett – and ALT’s UK Desk Officer 2002-2003
Lucinda Sallis
Anne Shepherd
Stuart and Christine Clode
Peter Smart
Max Curdz
Amy Glass
Patrick Hall
Suzannah Johansson
Antonie Kraemer
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Emilie McCue
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Jaisal Vadgama

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CARE International
Climate Care
Friends of the Earth (FOE)
Department for International Development (DFID), UK
Earth Love Fund (ELF)
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Georgina Mcaughtry
International Food and Agriculture Division (IFAD)
Marek Mayer
Mary Webb Trust
Marr Munning Trust
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Oak Foundation
Panos London
Roger Vere Foundation
Sue Mayer
Sydney E Franklin Charity
T.U.U.T Charitable Trust
Tandroy Conservation Trust (TCT)
United Nations Children Fund (UNICEF)
United Nations Development Programme (UNDP)
United States Agency for International Development (USAID)
United States Embassy Antananarivo
World Bank (via Madagascar National HIV AIDS Campaign, CNLS)
World Conservation Society (WCS)
World Food Programme (WFP)
World Wildlife Fund (WWF)
Zurich Cares
The Social & environmental projects in Madagascar

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