

INAUGURATION OF THE MANDRIVANY BRIDGE – RANOMAFANA NATIONAL PARK

Mandrivany, Ranomafana – Thursday, January 29, 2026

A major milestone has been achieved today: the official inauguration of the Mandrivany Bridge is now a reality. This ambitious project, located in the Fokontany of Mandrivany, 12 km from Ranomafana town (Kelilalina Commune, Ifanadiana District), is part of the peripheral zone of Ranomafana National Park.

The local population welcomed this new infrastructure with immense joy. Built by Madagascar National Parks, the bridge reflects the commitment of leaders to improve living conditions, facilitate local mobility, and strengthen exchanges between surrounding villages. Nearly 9,000 people from eight Fokontany in the communes of Kelilalina and Tsaratanana will directly benefit from this achievement.

Authorities in attendance

The ceremony was honored by the presence of the Minister of Environment and Sustainable Development, accompanied by the Director General of Madagascar National Parks, the local Member of Parliament, administrative authorities, and traditional leaders (“Ampanjaka”). The Chief of Fokontany highlighted that it was the first time Mandrivany had hosted a Minister and a Director General, a moment of pride deeply felt by the community.

The construction followed a request from the elected MP of Ifanadiana District, who raised concerns about the dangers posed by the old bridge. Madagascar National Parks mobilized technical and financial resources to bring this vision to life. The Director General emphasized that the bridge meets strict technical standards, ensuring lasting improvements to daily life and reinforcing community involvement in park conservation.

Education and cultural identity

The Minister expressed his joy in meeting the population, especially the many students present. He encouraged them to strengthen their knowledge of environmental conservation and adopt responsible attitudes. He reminded everyone that *“the forest is the identity of the Tanala people”* and called on the community to restore the value and vitality of their land.

Preserving the Park for Sustainable Development

The ribbon-cutting ceremony was followed by blessings and heartfelt wishes from village elders. The people of Mandrivany were praised for their dedication during the works. As the Director General of Madagascar National Parks stated: *“This bridge symbolizes conservation that brings human benefits by easing the daily lives of Mandrivany residents. We hope this collaboration continues for the sustainable management of Ranomafana National Park, a heritage of global importance.”*

For Life