



### CVB News

#### A Message from Dr. Patricia Wright

Recently, U.S. aid funding has been frozen worldwide, and we would like to address the potential impact on CVB and Madagascar.

The suspension of USAID funding is significantly impacting Madagascar's Environmental sector. In particular, many of the reforestation and economic livelihoods areas are now lacking funding.

CVB had two USAID grants, which funded reforestation and conservation clubs: TSIRO Alliance with Catholic Relief Services (CRS), and Harena for a greener Madagascar. Both grants are suspended, probably permanently. We are worried about salaries as well as continuing those activities.

Last week I met with the U.S. Ambassador to Madagascar. The Ambassador is ready to face the challenges. These new challenges will require new solutions, and we will build resilience in different ways.

Pitta-like ground roller (*Atelornis pittoides*) in Ranomafana National Park.

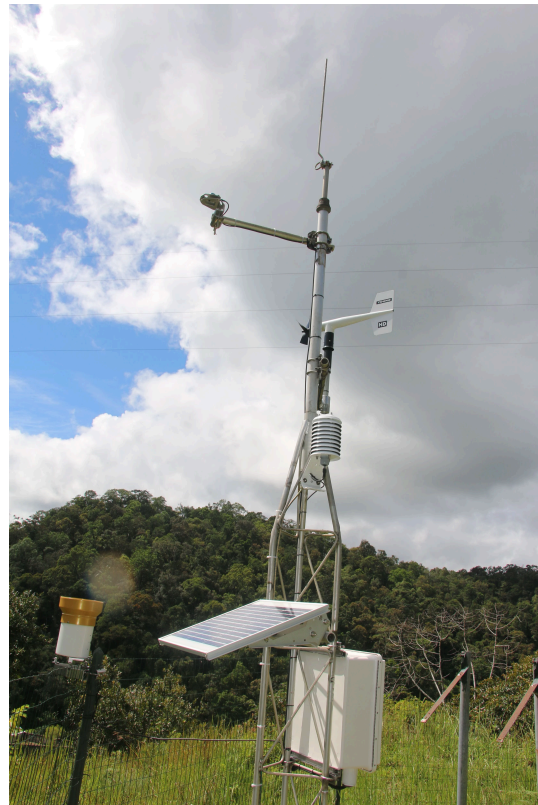
*Photo Credit: Rabenahy Franck Naina*



#### Weather Station Installation

We have installed a new weather station to enhance the accuracy and reliability of climate data collection. This will support ongoing research and conservation efforts by providing essential insights into local weather patterns, long-term climate trends, and their impact on biodiversity and ecosystems.

With this weather station setup, we can collect data on temperature, pressure, humidity, wind speed and direction, solar radiation, and rainfall. This enables detailed weather monitoring, climate research, and environmental analysis, contributing to a better understanding of local and global climate conditions.



*Photo Credit: Hajanirina Randrianarivony*

## **Giving Day at Stony Brook University: March 26**

Wednesday, March 26 is Stony Brook University's seventh annual Giving Day. For 24 hours, gifts will help transform students into leaders, put ideas into action and find powerful, measurable solutions across the Stony Brook footprint.



Your contribution, whether recurring or one-time, plays a pivotal role in realizing a more ecologically stable Madagascar. Help us achieve our goals and ensure a sustainable future for years to come.

Thank you for being a crucial part of our mission.

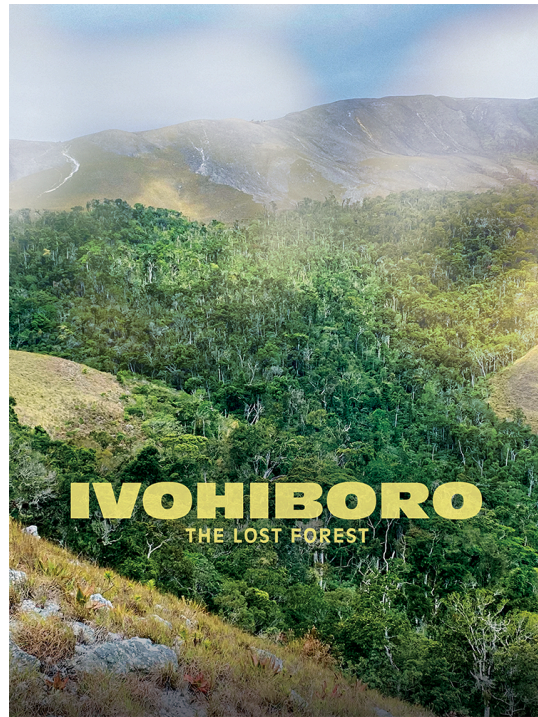
[Donate for Giving Day](#)

## **Ivohiboro: The Lost Forest Film Screening in Baltimore**

Last week was the first showing of the English-version of the documentary, *Ivohiboro: The Lost Forest*, in the United States.

Before the screening, Dr. Patricia Wright led a presentation. The event was hosted by Carnegie Institution for Science at Johns Hopkins University in the Maxine F. Singer Building in Baltimore, Maryland.

Thank you, Will Ludington, and the team at Johns Hopkins University for coordinating the event.



## Environmental Awareness Painting Workshop

Last month, the CVB Education team held an environmental awareness painting workshop on the irreversible consequences of damaging natural habitats. The children were divided into two groups:

Group 1 – These children were allowed to erase their drawings if they made a mistake.

Group 2 – These children were not allowed to erase anything once they had painted.

As the children in Group 1 attempted to erase their mistakes, they quickly realized that the watercolor didn't completely disappear. Instead, the paper became damaged, smudged, or worn out. This small but significant detail became the core of our environmental discussion.

The paper in the activity symbolized an animal's natural habitat, and the drawing represented the animals living there. Just as erasing the watercolor damaged the paper irreversibly, any harm done to nature, such as deforestation, pollution, or habitat destruction, cannot be completely undone.



Photo credit: Fabrice Arijaona

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