



75% of Madagascar's population is under the age of 25. These young people are the future of their country. Yet, only 1 out of 3 children goes to school.

Founded in 2003, Blue Ventures (BV) develops locally-led approaches to marine conservation that benefit people and nature alike. BV works in places where the ocean is vital to local cultures and economies, and is committed to advancing the rights of small-scale fishers throughout the coastal tropics. By listening and responding to basic needs, BV's models are designed to catalyze and sustain marine conservation, unlocking the potential of coastal communities to manage their resources.

Southwest Madagascar is one of the poorest parts of the world. Children and young people living in coastal communities experience poor educational provision and other socio-economic problems associated with high poverty levels. Many are stuck in a vicious cycle where poverty affects their access to education, which limits their horizons and opportunities. Like their families, they will rely on fishing as a livelihood, despite the fact that fish stocks are already over-exploited and threatened with collapse. Despite the numerous challenges these

children are facing, they're relentless in their pursuit of education and dreams of bright futures.

Blue Ventures provides young people with access to the educational opportunities they need to realize their full potential and advance marine conservation within their communities. Blue Ventures currently supports more than 250 students in the locally managed marine area Velondriake through its school scholarships program. Scholars are selected on the basis of financial need and academic achievement. These students could not afford to go to school without financial support. BV not only covers the school fees, but provides the children with stationery and textbooks.

Furthermore, BV runs a variety of extra-curricular activities with local teachers to ensure that all students receive the most robust package of support and highest quality of education possible. The activities include environmental and health education, youth and girls clubs, and one-on-one mentoring.

The scholarship program, as well as all other educational activities are *only achievable through private donations.*

**A single donation of *35€* is enough to send a child to *primary school or middle school* for a year.
A single donation of *55€* is enough to send a young person to *high school* for a year.**

Every single donation helps towards tutoring, mentoring, teacher training and our exciting range of extra-curricular activities!