



# The AFREPRENUEUR

SHINING THE SPOTLIGHT ON AFRICAN TALENT



**DANIELA**  
RAKOTOMAMONJY

*Advocating for food security and  
the preservation of bees in  
Madagascar*

SPECIAL FEATURE

**Do not suffer alone  
in silence, speak  
up.**

# *Editor's Note*



It has been almost two decades now since the days when my father would wake us up to go into our small seasonal maize garden. Back then, I used to think farming was for the rural folk and could not understand why he made us till-the-land living in urban areas. However, maturity has made me appreciate the importance of agriculture as a whole and why every African government must invest in it. There is no denying it; food security remains one of Africa's most significant challenges with millions suffering from starvation each year.

My nation was once the 'Breadbasket of Africa' with agriculture being one of the major pillars of our economy, but today the country has become a shadow of its former self. Still, there is hope for revival as many young people are beginning to appreciate the importance of agriculture and rising in that sector.

The journey towards food security is long but what matters is that slowly we are making strides in the right direction. Of course, political reforms and the fight against corruption are also crucial determinants of food security; however, that is a conversation for another day.

In this Issue, we take a trip to the island of Madagascar, where one young woman is playing her part in advocating for food security through various agribusiness initiatives and supporting surrounding communities.

Also, included is a feature article tackling the subject of domestic violence and why everyone needs to speak up. No form of abuse is acceptable; speak up because silence could cost you your life.

***Grace Marunga***  
EDITOR-IN-CHIEF & DESIGNER



# DANIELA RAKOTOMAMONJY

**Above**

An advocate for food security and the preservation of bees.

Daniela Rakotomamonjy is the founder and CEO of ACE, a group of companies that focus on agribusiness and renewable energy projects in Madagascar. ACE consists of multi-sectoral companies specialized in public, private partnership projects in renewable energy, urban and rural land reform, agribusiness, and ecotourism.

Her passion lies in preserving nature through initiatives such as reforestation, beekeeping, organic farming, and green energy.

She is engaged in various community initiatives that are focused on building communities and supporting young people. Her main focus areas are women empowerment, equal access to education, fighting youth drug abuse and providing professional training opportunities for people in her community.

Below she shares more insight about her vision and how she is working towards achieving it.

More than 820 million people are hungry globally. Among them, more than 4 million dead since January this year! Feeding the planet is everyone's problem, but I decided to make it my advocacy, and this is how I bring my contribution to Madagascar!

Bees pollinate around 75% of all crops in the world. Since 2006, more than 30% of honeybee colonies have disappeared, posing a significant threat to global agriculture. This phenomenon is caused primarily by excessive use of pesticides. This reduction mainly affects the availability of honey, honey by-products, fruits, and vegetables.

As stated by Dr Samuel Myers of Harvard University, the disappearance of honey on the market would lead to dietary changes that could increase the annual global non-communicable diseases and malnutrition mortality rates by an additional 2.7% per year. On a local level, the loss of honeybees not only reduces the availability of essential sources of nutrition but also decreases the availability of related jobs (e.g. beekeepers and gardeners).



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My vision is to advocate for food security in the world and to create an environment favourable to the conservation and multiplication of honeybees.

The challenges are not only to promote beekeeping activities but also:

- *The restoration of arid lands destroyed by bush fires for many successive years*
- *The reforestation from honey species*
- *The creation of jobs and sources of income for the local populations (98 people from the marginalized villages surrounding the project area)*
- *Awareness of biodiversity conservation (mainly the bees) and soil enrichment (fertilization, fight against bush fires, etc.)*
- *And finally, the promotion of organic farming and healthy food*

My pilot project called Bee Mada counts 33 hectares reforested honeybee garden hosting 100 beehives, more than 25 000 tropical fruit trees and 1 hectare of fish and chicken farm. Apart from organic honey, fruit, and vegetable production, we also produce around 1.100 tons of organic rice per year.

We hand out more than 4% of our products to marginalized people, families, and the kids in the villages surrounding our projects. These include beehives, bee swarms, and different varieties of vegetables and bean seeds to them.

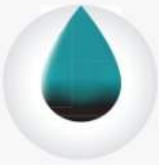
I still have many milestones ahead to achieve my vision, and so every day, I show up and give my best in everything I do.

I have learnt over the years not to be afraid of failure because it is part of the journey towards success. All you need to do is trust yourself and keep going eventually; you will succeed.

To find out more about our project visit and follow our page on Facebook:

**Group ACE Madagascar.**





**THE PROBLEM:** Hand washing and gel dispensers clean hands, but as soon as you touch a dirty door, you risk becoming contaminated.

**SOLUTION:** At ChemScore Africa, we supply products which help **keep** hands clean when doors are touched.

We also offer hygiene solutions for various high traffic touchpoints such as counters, tables, elevators, touchscreens etc. which in turn breaks the chain of infection.



### SURFACESKINS DOOR PUSH PADS

Self disinfecting door gel pushpads designed to kill deposited germs in seconds. 64% alcohol content.

Lifespan: 7 days or 1000 activations  
MOQ: 10 pushpads

**R155/ pushpad**

### NANOSEPTIC SELF CLEANING SURFACES

NanoSeptic skins and mats turn dirty, high traffic touchpoints into continuously self cleaning surfaces. The NanoSeptic surface has mineral Nano-crystals which, when charged up by visible light, creates an oxidation reaction stronger than bleach.

#### FOR DOORS (Last 3 months, MOQ: 5)



PB05: Size 3.6' x 12' **R150**

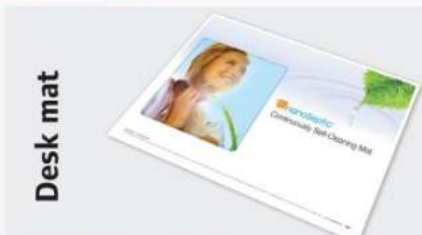


HW01: Size 4' x 6' **R100**

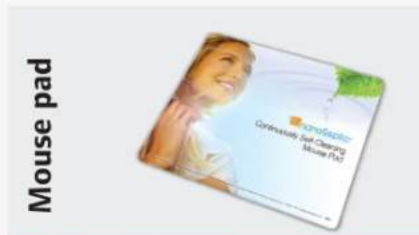


SL01: Size 4' Length **R90**

#### FOR DESKS (Lasts 1 year, MOQ: 1)



DM01: Size 12' x 18' **R480**



MP01: Size 7' x 10' **R370**

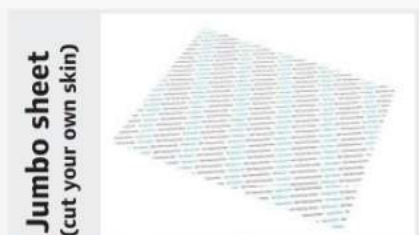


CM03: Size 11' x 17' **R950**

#### SPECIALITY PRODUCTS (Lasts 3 months, MOQ: 1)



CD01 **R550**



SH01: Size 12'x 18' **R550**



FILM02: Size 9' x 12' **R480**

**CONTACT US FOR A FULL BROCHURE OF OUR PRODUCTS**

# *Do Not Suffer Alone*

by Maureen Nyasha Hove  
[theroyaldiadem.wordpress.com](http://theroyaldiadem.wordpress.com)



He stormed into the room fitfully breathing, blustering like a tragic tyrant throwing his hands frantically in the air enraged like a son of thunder. This time it wasn't the romantic playful horseplay she had gotten used to over the years. As she was halfway explaining herself, That soft caress she was used to was replaced by a sharp slap on her left cheek.

"Shut up!" he yelled

With a tone that turned to vitriol against her replacing those sweet serenading words that had once awakened butterflies in her . As if that wasn't enough, He bashed and smashed her against the wall. With his grip tightly wrapped around her bony neck like a snake engulfing its prey. He struck her with a firm blow on the left cheek again with droplets of blood flying across the room and one loose tooth, vanquishing an already cowed woman.

She let out a discordant high pitched scream. With her hand on her lower lip still petrified and terrified in total denial of all the current happenings. She found herself staggering to the corner desperately asking the walls for protection. At this moment she just hoped they would swallow her inside. It was all a blur as she saw him charging towards her like a rodeo bull. She was his red-flagged target.

He gruesomely beat her up, placing all his weight into a downward attack with his fists. She curled her legs up to the chest and kept her arms close to the torso like an embryo in the womb.

Minutes later, her motionless body is seen lying helpless in a pool of blood. Faintly panting and breathing her last. Full of regret, rueing the day she said I do to him. Like a broken record, repeatedly said he wouldn't do it again .

The perpetrator sweet-talked his victim not to report with a wardrobe of "I'm sorry" outfits. She lively regretted how she was so naive and gullible to trust his meaningless words in favour of the emotional scars she retained within her. Each time she wanted to dial those numbers he would sweetly remind her how he wasn't a violent person. All those episodes were followed by reconciliation and calm moments. To her, the reason behind her silence was because of lack of financial resources, fear, shame, and to protect her son.

Now, as the undertakers slowly lower her coffin into the grave, she is worried about her baby boy who witnessed his mama helplessly lying on the floor giving out her last breath. Now, what use will she be of to him now that she is saying her last prayer? She is scared it will induce an intergenerational cycle of abuse in him.

What if he ends up feeling like such violence is acceptable or condoned?  
How does she help and liberate the woman in her shoes to be set free?  
How does she tell her that she is not imagining the abuse, the emotional and physical pain?  
How does she tell her that what she feels is real?  
How does she tell her that she shouldn't believe she is partially to blame for the abuse in the relationship?

She needs to tell other women in the same situation that they should seek help before they end up corpses just like her. Her last words will be, "**DO NOT SUFFER ALONE!**"

## **STOP GENDER-BASED VIOLENCE!**

### **WHERE CAN PEOPLE REPORT FOR HELP IN ZIMBABWE?**

- **Police Victim Friendly Unit**  
Helpline - (0242) 700171 -6
- **Musasa Project**  
Toll-free lines: 08080074  
WhatsApp /SMS: 0775442300

### **WHO ELSE IS ASSISTING WOMEN AND VICTIMS OF VIOLENCE AND ABUSE?**

- **Legal Resources Foundation**  
Toll-free - 08080402
- **Zimbabwe Women Lawyers Association (ZWLA)**  
Toll-free - 08080131  
Adult Rape Clinic  
Hotline - 0775727770
- **Shamwari yeMwanasikana**  
Hotline - 0772607384
- **Padare/Enkundleni/Men's Forum on Gender**  
Hotline - 0776027290 / 0775545483

## **CONTENT FEATURES**

Are you a writer / blogger and would like to have your article featured in The Afreprenuer?  
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