

APPLICATION TO HOST THE AFRICAN SCHOOL OF PHYSICS
ASP 2026

“ANTANANARIVO MADAGASCAR”

1- INTRODUCTION

The Department of Physics and Application, at the Faculty of Science of the University of Antananarivo, Madagascar is located at the heart of the capital city of Madagascar, Antananarivo. The city is an economic hub for the country and the University of Antananarivo is a beacon of hope for the future development of the island. For the last thirteen years, numerous students and postgraduates from the Department of Physics have participated and benefited from attending the African School of Physics. The majority of these students are now professionals in their individual careers located all around the Globe and most of them are serving as lecturers and researchers based at the University of Antananarivo Madagascar.

For the upcoming ASP 2026, Madagascar represented and led by the High Energy Physics group is officially bidding to be host country.

2- Organizers from Madagascar

The Local Organization Committee was formed on June 28th 2023 at the High Energy Physics Department at the University of Antananarivo. There is an eagerness to start working with the African School of Physics International Committee. The organizers for Madagascar are composed of 2 groups (Local and International):

- The Local Organising Committee (LOC) initiative is led by Dr. Fenompanirina Andrianala, Pr. Roland Raboanary,
- A special International Organising Malagasy Committee (IOMC) composed by Malagasy's researchers abroad was also formed and led by Dr Laza Rakotondravohitra.

The LOC is composed of researchers, teachers and lecturers from the University of Antananarivo . Support from local consultancy groups in event organization has also joined the initiative. Former physics graduates working in industry and local government are part of the effort for this application.

2.1 Local organizers at the University of Antananarivo

The following is the list of the LOC confirming their participation in taking responsibilities for the local organization of the ASP2026 in Antananarivo Madagascar if we are selected to be host.

- Lead: Fenompanirina Andrianala. High Energy Physicist Researcher at the University of Antananarivo
- Co-Lead: Roland Raboanary- Professor at The University of Antananarivo
- Co-Lead: Hanitriarivo Rakotoson- Professor at The University of Antananarivo, INSTN (Institut National des Sciences et Techniques Nucleares)
- Co-Lead: Laza Rakotondravohitra- Medical Physicist- The University of Antananarivo- The Center for Cancer and Blood Disorder in Texas USA. (ASP Alumni 2010)
- Co-Lead: Andriniaina Rasoanaivo- Lecturer at The University of Antananarivo (ASP Alumni 2012)
- Vololoniaina Narisoa Marc- Lecturer at the University of Antananarivo (ASP Alumni 2012)
- Fenosoa Fanomezana- Lecturer at the University of Antananarivo
- Rabetiarivony Davidson- Lecturer at the University of Antananarivo (ASP Alumni 2014)
- Fetra Haja Ranaivoarisoa- Deputy General Manager of TAFITA, Ministry of Youth and Sport, Higher energy physics graduate

2.2 International Organizing Malagasy Committee

The following is the list of the IOMC confirming their support and to the local organization of the ASP2026 in Antananarivo Madagascar from abroad:

- Lead: Laza Rakotondravohitra- Medical Physicist- The University of Antananarivo- The Center for Cancer and Blood Disorder in Texas USA. (ASP Alumni 2010)
- David Martinez- Assistant Professor of Physics- South Dakota School of Mine.
- Steve Dyttman- Professor at the University of Pittsburgh.

3. Proposed Dates

The University of Antananarivo usually has a break during the end of July to the end of August. The LOC is proposing the following dates from *July 28th, 2026 to August 17th 2026*. As the University Calendar may be subject to change, the LOC will remain flexible and will work with the ASP International Organizing Committee to find the ideal dates for the events.

4- Proposed Venue

There have been inquiries and support from the local industries to provide sponsorship to the event. The LOC and IOMC are working together to secure government support for the ASP initiative, this bid application along with several other documentations will be submitted to the University of Antananarivo to be included in the annual budget in order to secure financial support as a host University and host country. After preliminary meetings, 4 proposed venues have been considered ideal for hosting the school and the conference.

4-1 “La Bibliothèque Universitaire” at the University of Antananarivo. ([Université d’Antananarivo \(univ-antananarivo.mg\)](http://univ-antananarivo.mg))

This location is the LOC first choice to host the ASP and ACP 2026. The main library of the University of Antananarivo is an ideal location for conferences and school events. Two large meeting rooms with capacity of 245 and 212 people each will be available. The LOC is currently in discussion with Orange Madagascar and/or TELMA Madagascar in sponsoring high quality WiFi access during the events. This location will be ideal for the Physics outreach during ASP as well.

The computer lab of the Department of Physics has 27 computers and is located at a walking distance from the main library. The LOC has proposed to set up a temporary computer lab within the library itself to accommodate larger numbers of computer availability.

Lodging accommodation will have to be in nearby hotels and the LOC has been inquiring potential candidates to be host for all ASP participants. The cost per person of accommodation varies between \$35 to \$60 per night. The LOC are looking for options and will make agreements with local hotels nearby.



Entrance of the “La Bibliothèque Universitaire”



Room 1 Maximum Occupancy 245



Room 2, Maximum Occupancy 212

4.2 The CCI Ivato or Centre de Conference International Ivato. This location is 5mn drive from the International Airport and offers a variety of large conference rooms. Several lodging hotels are located within 10mn drive. This premise is government owned and the usage will be based on application. A strong application will have to contain exact numbers of participants and a detailed description of the program.



The CCI Ivato



Map of the CCI Ivato

4-3 The 3rd choice and a good option as host hotel is the Hotel Tometal-Conference room located at pres III A49 Mahamasina Est, 101 Antananarivo. This facility can host up to 350 attendants. The school, conference and meeting will be held onsite and accommodation will be within walking distance. However, the highschool outreach will have to be at the University of Antananarivo.

4.4 The 4th option is more adventurous as it is located approximately 5 hours from the International Airport. All events, talks and conferences will be held in one location and accommodation will be on the premise of the conference building. It is a national park called Andasibe Mantadia National Park. The venue will be held at Vakona Forest Lodge. (See images). The maximum occupancy of the largest conference room is 200. The LOC is currently in discussion with the manager for more details. It is one of the great natural reserves of Madagascar and many endemic species are found in the reserve which are ideal for excursion .



Entrance of Vakona Forest Lodge



East Dining area, 3 more are available.

The LOC and IOMC are providing these venue options, the LOC will also welcome input from the ASP International committee.

5. Sponsoring Opportunities

The LOC and the IOMC organizers are working tirelessly to secure fundings. In the meantime, the following industries and government entities have shown eagerness in supporting. The supports are in the form of services such as high internet speed, social event sponsoring, lodging support, Individual student sponsoring. A financial support from the Malagasy Government is currently being proposed but more documentations would be required. Since the process is currently at the initial bid, the majority of the local intensities that have been approached and inquired.

The following industries, organizations, government entities have enthusiastically replied to the LOC and IOMC request to support the ASP2026 if it were to be held in Antananarivo Madagascar in 2026.

5.1 The University of Antananarivo Madagascar

5.2 ORANGE MADAGASCAR- Internet Provider

5.3 TELMA MADAGASCAR- Cellphone/internet Provider

5.4 THB- Three Horse Beer- Star Breweries of Madagascar

5.5 The United States Embassy in Antananarivo Madagascar

5.6 The Ministry of Education of Madagascar

5.7 The Ministry of Industry of Madagascar

5.8 The Center for Cancer and Blood Disorder- Dallas Texas USA

6. Formal submission

The Local Organizing Committee (LOC) and the International Organization Malagasy Committee (IOMC) led by Dr. Feno Andrianala and Dr. Laza Rakotondravohitra are officially submitting a bid to host ASP2026.

Any inquiries or clarification should be directed to the following email:

Based in Antananarivo, Madagascar: Dr. **Fenompanirina** Andrianala
 (+261) 34 65 230 25 fenompanirina@gmail.com | Fenompanirina.andrianala@cern.ch
 University of Antananarivo TANA 101 Madagascar

Based in Dallas, TX United States of America: Dr. **Laza** Rakotondravohitra
 The Center for Cancer and Blood Disorders
 800 W. Magnolia Avenue, Fort Worth, TX 76104
 O: 817-333-1122- M: 630-842-5317 | lrakotondravohitra@txcc.com