

Adventist University Zurcher  
P. K. 135, National Road 7, Sambaina, Antsirabe 110, Madagascar

# PERSPECTIVES



2025 Edition

## INTRODUCTION

Adventist University Zurcher is a higher educational institution established by the Seventh-day Adventist Church to serve primarily the needs of the Seventh-day Adventist membership in the Indian Ocean Union Conference. In addition, the University welcomes students from all religions and geographical areas, as well as from diverse ethnic, social, and cultural backgrounds.

## HISTORY

Adventist University Zurcher was established in 1995, following the destruction of Adventist University of Central Africa in Rwanda in 1994. To replace it, the Southern Africa-Indian Ocean Division voted to open four campuses throughout the French-speaking areas of its territory—one in Cameroon, one in the Democratic Republic of Congo, one in Rwanda, and one in Madagascar. In the fall of 1996, the University opened its doors to 35 theology students, and temporarily established itself on the Indian Ocean Union Mission compound in Antananarivo.

The following year, the University moved to Antsirabe, where it rented some facilities from the training center of the Catholic Church. In 1998 the University relocated to its current location, a beautiful 200 hectares property, right on the National Highway between Antananarivo and Antsirabe.

Construction began in July 1998 and continued until March 1999 before the University could open its doors for the third year. On March 25, 1999, construction was sufficiently advanced to allow students and personnel to begin classes.

At present, the University has eight departments, namely, Business, Communication, Computer Science, Education, Health Sciences, Language, Law, Theology, and offers academic programs leading to a Licence (three-year program), or Masters (five-year program).

## PHILOSOPHY

Adventist University Zurcher is committed to Christian teachings and values as understood by the Seventh-day Adventist Church. God is perceived as the Creator and ultimate source of knowledge and meaning. True education is defined as the harmonious development of the intellectual, spiritual, social, and physical aspects of human nature.

## KEY WORDS

### **Mission statement**

Adventist University Zurcher, a Seventh-day Adventist Christian institution, prepares its students to be transformational leaders by desiring knowledge and hungering for God's heart.

### **Vision**

Transforming tomorrow's leaders today.

### **Core values**

Family – at AUZ we work as a family where fihavanana bonds the family and where each person is considered a brother or sister and God is our Father.

God's heart – at AUZ we value the potential in others and treat people as God would treat us and we see ourselves as stewards of what God entrusts to us.

Transformation – at AUZ we seek to be agents of transformation and trainers of agents of transformation.

## STRATEGIC PILLARS

In order to reach and maintain its preferred future, and in the context of its mission, the Adventist University Zurcher (AUZ) will be guided by seven strategic pillars.

### **1. Quality**

AUZ will seek to provide exemplary education and services to its student body. Graduates will be highly skilled and possess the knowledge, attitudes and values that will be greatly valued by employers, as well as graduate schools. In assuring its quality, the University will model a learning community that is accountable and will nurture a culture of assessment that will drive planning decisions.

### **2. Hungering for God's Heart**

As a Seventh-day Adventist University, AUZ will engage its faculty, staff and students to hunger after God's heart thus searching, renewing and growing in their understanding of the foundational role of Scripture in their personal and academic faith journey.

### **3. Service**

AUZ wants each employee, student and alumnus to be known as people engaged in a life of service. Through its academic and extra-curricular programming, the University will encourage the development of lifelong attitudes of compassion and care. In its priorities the University will model a community where service to others is vital to its operation.

### **4. Leadership**

At AUZ, curriculum opportunities and extra-curricular programming will emphasize the University's focus on developing service-minded leaders who can transform the world. The University has and will provide leaders for the Indian Ocean Union. It will also actively develop skills and attitudes that will help position graduates as potential leaders in their communities and workplace.

### **5. Family**

AUZ places a high value on family. Its residential expectations for students assist in building a sense of belonging. The University will embrace as its family the various constituencies impacted by its presence, including its alumni, church and the local community.

### **6. Growth**

AUZ is a growing institution. Its successful future requires effective management of that growth. Program expansion demands campus growth in facilities, while the University continues to see its primary responsibility as the growth of its students: academically, physically and spiritually.

### **7. Financial Sustainability**

Financial sustainability at AUZ is a priority. Finding financial partners will help produce a healthy financial milieu. Such an environment will enable the fulfillment of institutional strategies and goals. Further, it will reinvigorate the physical environment and innovation in planning.

## ACCREDITATION

Adventist University Zurcher is accredited with the Adventist International Accrediting Association. In addition, the Malagasy government has given recognition to its programs.

## CURRENT SITUATION

AUZ has two dorms to house the students. The male dormitory has a capacity of 80 students with 3-4 in each room. The female dormitory has a capacity of 68 students with 4-5 in each room. Currently, we have 45 male interns and 51 female interns.

A considerable number of our students, especially Theology students, live off campus because, even though housing and cafeteria are only 500\$ for the whole academic year, they struggle to add this amount to tuition. Madagascar being one of the poorest and less educated country in the world, AUZ doesn't have the possibility to raise much the fees because this would prevent many youths to get an Adventist college education.

This matter of fact prevents the University to implement large-scale projects, in particular building modern facilities and equipping them, having adequate housing for the students and staff, develop new activities.

This is why we turn to friends who can help us in one or several projects because they will consider themselves the helping hand of God to AUZ. This was the idea of Paul when he wrote to the Corinthians his second letter (chapter 8 specifically). There he presents the testimony of the churches in Macedonia who gave freely for the church in Judea. Then he asks the church in Corinth to be part of this project and presents the way money will be handled. He goes on with chapter 9 and the famous verses 6 to 8:

“Remember this: Whoever sows sparingly will also reap sparingly, and whoever sows generously will also reap generously. Each of you should give what you have decided in your heart to give, not reluctantly or under compulsion, for God loves a cheerful giver. And God is able to bless you abundantly, so that in all things at all times, having all that you need, you will abound in every good work” (NIV).

## PROJECTS

Your participation is warmly welcomed for three urgent projects that we want to start or finish:

**MALE DORMITORY.** In 2023, due to a fire, we experienced the loss of some housing for our male students. Our goal with this new building is to accommodate 128 students in a three-story building with 4 students in each room. This will allow us to reduce housing prices and give students the facilities they don't have when they live off-campus (tap water, electricity, internet, easy access to the library, etc.). **Cost: 300 000\$.**

**SIX HOUSES FOR THE STAFF.** Some of our regular professors have to live off campus because we lack housing on campus, however the conditions of living outside are difficult. **Cost: 20 000\$ for each house, total: 120 000\$.**

**GUEST HOUSE.** Guests and visitors are currently lodged in what was the first chapel of the University, that has been since transformed into bedrooms. **Cost: 50 000\$.**

Other projects you may be interested to support are:

**Scholarship fund.** Because of the difficult economic situation existing presently in Madagascar, many worthy students have difficulties finding the funds for their education. For a boarding student, attending the University for this academic year will cost around 700\$. You might wish to sponsor one or more students, fully or in part.

**Solar energy as main power source.** Our world is transitioning to green energy. Being part of this process and autonomous will help us solve the problem of power shortages and load shedding which are hindrances to the normal operation of our university. **Cost: 75 000\$.**

**Administrative building.** The current one is too small as the University is expanding its activities. **Cost: 100 000\$.**

**Classrooms and offices for the professors.** Currently the number of classrooms is reaching the limit and professors don't have a personal office where they can work and meet with students. **Cost: 100 000\$.**

**Female dormitory.** Female students are currently 4-6 in each room and we would like to give them better living conditions during their presence at AUZ. **Cost: 300 000\$.**

**Cisterns to store water.** They are needed particularly during the dry season. **Cost: 10 000\$.**

**Foyer for students, with an office for the Students Association.** Currently students don't have a meeting place except in the classrooms or outside. **Cost: 100 000\$.**

**Equipped language lab in the library.** Most students are struggling with French and English which are the languages used for teaching. They need facilities where they can practice and improve. **Cost: 10 000\$.**

**Housing for married students.** Currently we don't have housing for married students as our possibilities are not even sufficient for the staff. **Cost: 5 000\$ for each house.**

**Auditorium.** Our meeting place for large gatherings is the Church building but its capacity is limited. Otherwise, for the graduation ceremonies we use an open-air venue which is not suitable for regular meetings, especially during the rainy season. **Cost: 100 000\$**

**Roof and toilets for sports grounds.** This is needed to shield students from the heat during the dry season and the rain during the rainy season. **Cost: 20 000\$.**

**Cafeteria.** The current kitchen is separated by the road from the building where meals are taken. This building should be turned as a fitness center, and a new equipped and integrated cafeteria will help the social life. ADRA Madagascar has already helped us by initiating a biogas program. **Cost: 60 000\$.**

**Tar our main road (1 km).** During the rainy season our road gets muddy and slippery, and during the dry season it's dusty. Both situations cause health problems and may be dangerous for our students, in addition to the cleanliness of our premises. **Cost: 45 000\$.**

## IN CONCLUSION

Dear friend,

We need your help! We need your involvement, financially or in other areas, to make the development of our university a reality. We are inviting you to join us and be a part of it, to see our dear Adventist University Zurcher grow and develop as it brings to a large number of young people, through Adventist Education, an opportunity for service to their churches, communities and country, as well as a better life for their families.

Please contact us at the following:

Université Adventiste Zurcher  
PK 135, RN7, Sambaina, Antsirabe 110, Madagascar  
+261 34 18 810 86  
@: [uaz.rector@zurcher.edu.mg](mailto:uaz.rector@zurcher.edu.mg)  
[financedir@zurcher.edu.mg](mailto:financedir@zurcher.edu.mg)

Bank: BMOI ANTSIRABE Madagascar

Name on account: UNIVERSITE ADVENTISTE ZURCHER, VOHITSOA ANTSAMPANIMAHZO  
ANTSIRABE 110

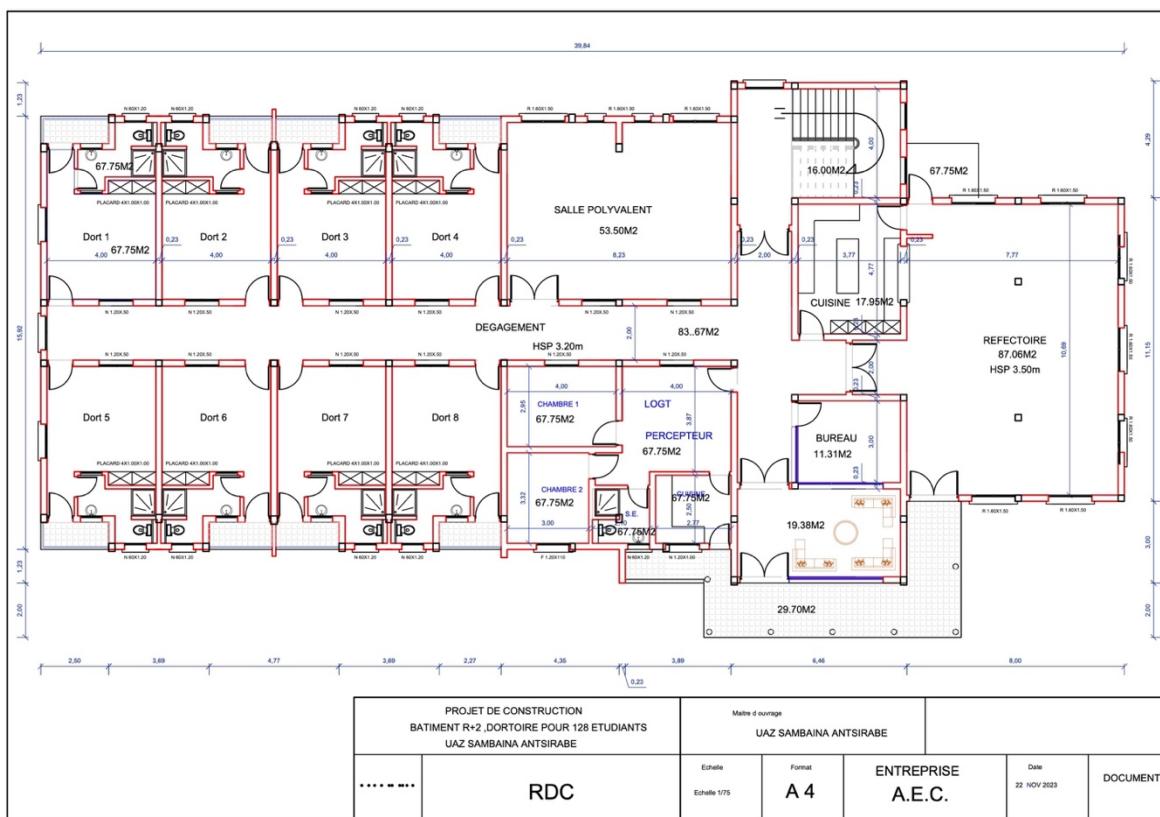
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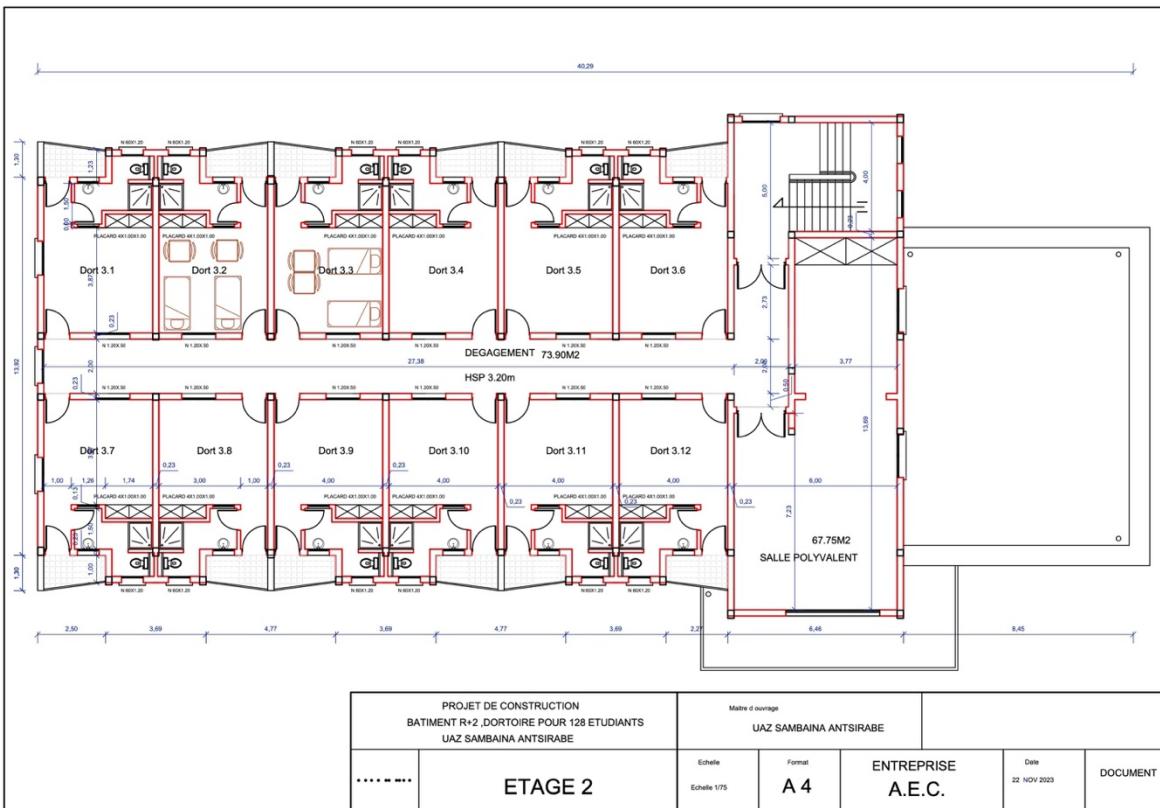
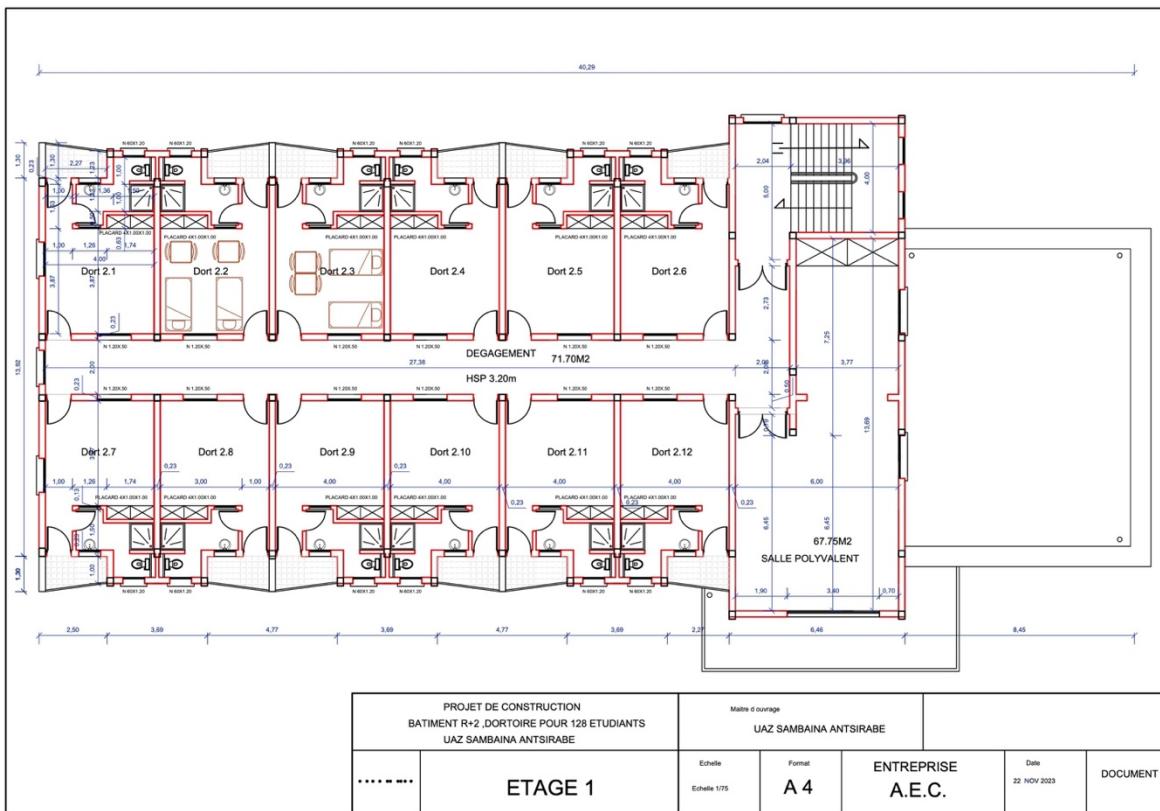
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## **DOCUMENTS**

# MALE DORMITORY PLAN





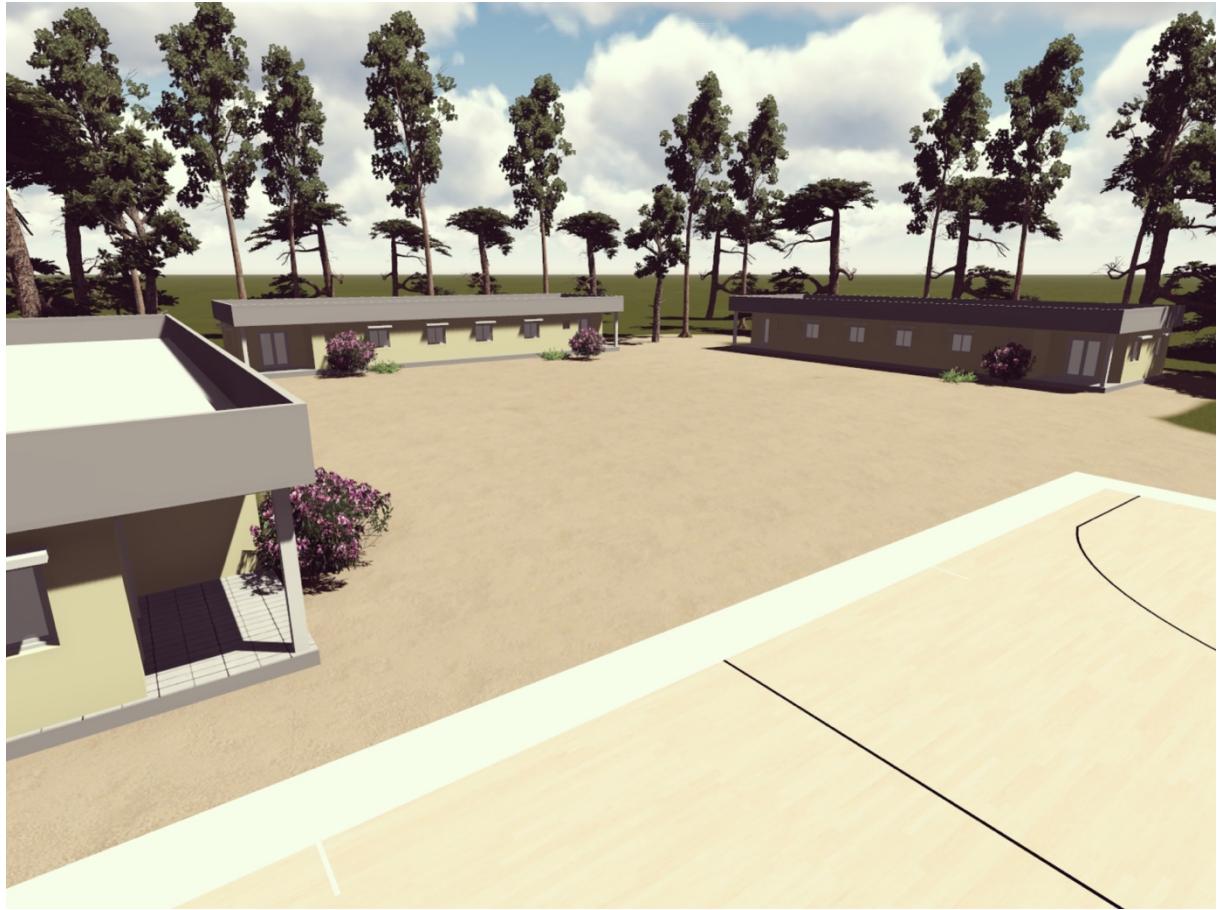
MALE DORMITORY ROOM



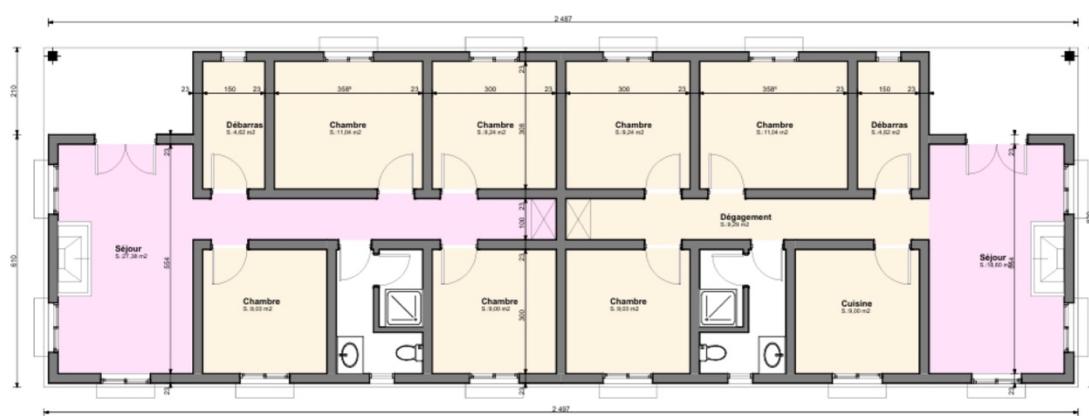
FEMALE DORMITORY ROOM



## STAFF HOUSES PROJECT



VUE EN PLAN



UNIVERSITY ENTRANCE



CHAPEL



## SPORTS GROUND/AGORA



CAFETERIA (LEFT), KITCHEN (RIGHT)

