



# MAKIRA NATURAL PARK

**Category:** Makira Natural Park,  
Category II

**Manager:** Wildlife Conservation  
Society (WCS)

**Area:** 372,470 ha

**Geolocation:** Provinces of Antsiranana, Mahajanga and Toamasina; Regions of Analanjirofo, Sava and Sofia; Districts of Andapa, Antalaha, Befandriana-Nord, Mandritsara and Maroantsetra

**International label:** Key Biodiversity Area (KBA), Important Bird Area (IBA), Priority Area for Plant Conservation (PAPC), Alliance for Zero Extinction (AZE) site

**Start of FAPBM financings:** 2011

## FLAGSHIP SPECIES

The Makira Natural Park, by virtue of its geographical position, ensures the connectivity of Eastern Madagascar rain forests to the sub-humid forests of Northern Madagascar. It is very rich in specific diversity of fauna and flora, and the rate of endemism is one of the highest in Madagascar. The Makira Natural Park is home to the largest block of **intact lowland and medium altitude moist evergreen forests in Madagascar**.

There are **2 lemurs** whose geographical distribution is restricted to this part of the island (Marojejy - Makira - Masoala): ***Propithecus candidus*** and ***Varecia rubra***.



## 68

**SPECIES OF AMPHIBIANS**  
including **5** local endemics, of which **2** are classified as vulnerable; **4** species are classified as endangered and **3** as vulnerable



## 10

**SPECIES OF BATS**  
including **2** classified as vulnerable, (i.e: the Madagascar flying fox)



## 720

**SPECIES OF PLANTS**  
including: **591** endemic to Madagascar (**83%**) among which **2** species are classified as endangered and **3** as vulnerable ; **16** local endemics (**2%**) including **3** critically endangered and **1** vulnerable palm species and **3** other flora species endangered



## 7

**SPECIES OF CARNIVORANS**  
**5** of which are classified as vulnerable, including the fossa and the Malagasy civet



## 17

**SPECIES OF LEMURS**  
including **2** local endemics, **1** classified as critically endangered and **1** as endangered; **3** other species are classified as critically endangered (among which *Indri indri* - Babakoto), **4** as endangered (among which the nocturnal lemur Aye-aye) and **7** as vulnerable



## 60

**SPECIES OF REPTILES**  
including **3** local endemics among which **1** chameleon species classified as endangered ; **1** other chameleon species of *genus Brookesia* is also classified as endangered and **4** other reptile species are classified as Vulnerable



## 24

**SPECIES OF OTHER MAMMALS**  
of which **3** are classified as vulnerable

## PROTECTED AREA SPECIFICITIES

### LANDSCAPES AND HABITATS



Lowland moist evergreen forest, medium altitude moist evergreen forest, crater, dense network of rivers and waterfalls.

**Particularity:** existence of several sacred sites related to the request for blessing «fomba» and places of «joro» rituals.

### PRESSURES AND THREATS



Wildlife hunting and poaching, small-scale mining, temporary camps, human intrusion with permanent camps, slash-and-burn agriculture, illegal logging, collection of non-timber forest products, bush fires, lack of a formal land tenure system, poor law enforcement, invasive species.



### ECONOMIC VALUE

The park is a **large reservoir of water for the region: irrigation water for the crop perimeters and drinking water in the numerous water bodies.**



### LOCAL COMMUNITIES' INITIATIVES

Makira Natural Park covers 5 Districts. **The green belt, a subject of management transfers to local associations, is currently effective.** The park manager, **WCS, is working closely with these associations** for the preservation of the park's forest cover and for the implementation of development activities (tourism, cash crop farming). The patrols working with WCS agents come from these local communities.

**70,202 inhabitants or 13,657 households** are directly benefiting from the ecosystem services provided by the protected area.



### FAPBM'S EFFORTS AND RESULTS

The FAPBM's support to Makira Natural Park began **in 2011**. The total amount of grants to date is **MGA 1,987,655,606**.

The FAPBM's financial support contributes to the implementation of **conservation activities (participatory ecological monitoring, patrols, conservation infrastructure, etc.)**, **support for the development of IGAs and agricultural sectors, and payroll and operating costs**. It should be noted that these FAPBM contributions affect only a few sectors of the natural park which is one of the largest protected areas in Madagascar.

The results obtained are conclusive and **the conservation state of targets has been stable** for several years in the natural park, despite the very great pressure on the park's precious woods.



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Created in 2005, the **Foundation for the Protected Areas and Biodiversity of Madagascar (FAPBM)** is a Malagasy trust fund dedicated to the conservation of Madagascar's biodiversity. It is an innovative and sustainable financing mechanism for Madagascar's Protected Areas System (SAPM).