

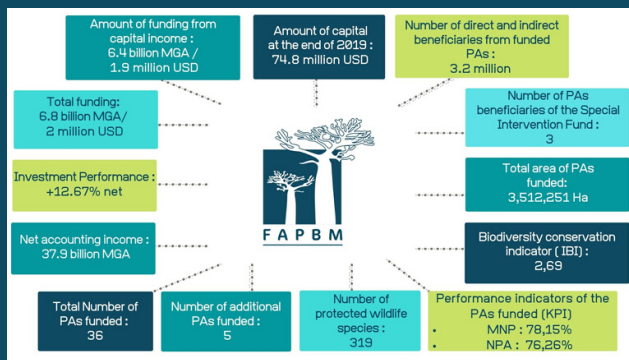
NEWSLETTER

JULY 2020

FAPBM's 2019 Annual Report available soon

The Foundation's 2019 Annual Report was approved on June 12, 2020. It will be publicly available at the end of July 2020.

A first overview of the contents of this document is given through the key figures below:

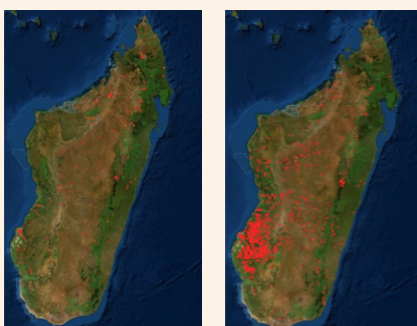


With the support of its contributors, *the Foundation has been able to increase the surface area of protected areas it funds by 12% through the addition of 5 protected areas.*

It should also be pointed out that in 2019, 3 200 000 inhabitants of the municipalities where the protected areas financed by FAPBM are located are directly or indirectly impacted by the activities set up around these protected areas.

COVID-19: Decline in reported completion rate of activities in protected areas

Analysis of reports sent by managers of protected areas supported by the Foundation indicated a decrease in the number of activities carried out in protected areas to 75% of the expected level (this rate was 95% for the same period in 2019). In the protected areas managed by MNP, patrols conducted by Local Park Committees were negatively affected by the ban on community work. In the New Protected Areas, some "polisin'ala" missions had to be cancelled.



Fire points in the PA between March 2019 (left) and March 2020 (right)

One of the significant consequences of this drop in the implementation of activities is the strong increase in pressure on Madagascar's protected areas as reported by satellite monitoring of fires and forest losses.

Additional support of the Foundation through the SIF to the South Midongy and Tsaratanàna protected areas.

The Foundation granted a Special Intervention Fund (SIF) to two protected areas managed by Madagascar National Parks (MNP): the Befotaka Midongy National Park and the Tsaratanàna Integral Nature Reserve.

Implementation of mixed brigades for the removal of illegal occupants and cannabis planters in the Tsaratanàna protected area



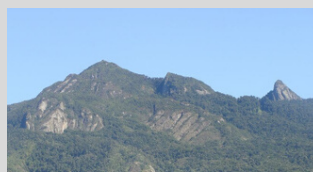
The rate of loss of forest cover in the Tsaratanàna Integral Nature Reserve has grown at an alarming rate since the beginning of this year 2020,

according to recent satellite alerts from Global Land Analysis and Discover (GLAD).

The major impacts of the COVID-19 pandemic on the local economy are reflected in the decline in the prices of cash crops. Faced with this situation, farmers living in the protected area are engaging in cannabis trafficking. This situation encourages an increase in the number of illegal occupants within the core area of the Integral Nature Reserve, intensifying land clearing and fires.

The SIF allocated by FAPBM will enable the Tsaratanàna Protected Area Management Unit to carry out mixed brigade missions for the dislocation of illegal occupants and cannabis planters in the protected area.

Strengthening surveillance activities in the South Midongy Protected Area



The activities of the protected area are currently reduced to patrol surveillance by Park agents, fire monitoring and ecological monitoring due to the decrease of MNP funds,

resulting from the lack of revenue caused by the prohibition of visits to protected areas.

The activities that cannot be carried out due to lack of funds are, nevertheless, an important part of the strategy to reduce pressures on the park, leading to an upward trend in pressures:

Illegal occupants are taking advantage of the large area of the protected area to clear land for upland rice cultivation. The damage caused by these clearings is significant and the Park does not have the financial means to cope with the large-scale pressures.

The Special Intervention Fund granted by the Foundation is intended to enable the management unit of the South Midongy protected area to strengthen the security of the park.



Focus on the sericulture activity in the protected area of Itremo

FAPBM has been supporting the development of the sericulture activity in the Itremo Massif protected area, managed by the Royal Botanical Gardens Kew Madagascar (RBG Kew Madagascar), since 2015. The sector is developed in 03 graining centres set up in 6 villages around the protected area.

This silkworm breeding and weaving activity is very popular in the region of the protected area thanks to the presence of vast forests of Tapia, the only place where wild silkworms, endemic to Madagascar, develop. RBG Kew Madagascar has thus identified silkworm rearing as one of the compensation activities for the populations affected by the creation of the Itremo Massif protected area. Its development allows the communities surrounding the protected area to benefit from additional income.

As a result of the training provided on silkworm rearing, which enables the beneficiaries to become more professional, and the endowment of weaving equipment financed by the Foundation, the production and sale of silk fabrics is beginning to take off.



The wild silkworms of the New Protected Area of Itremo

The development of the sericulture chain in Itremo goes hand in hand with the reduction in the number of fire points in the New Protected Area : the setting up of income-generating activities has enabled a more effective mobilization of the local communities for the protection of the surrounding forests, particularly the gallery forests and the Tapia forests on which part of their income depends.

Status of the GEF 6 / WWF project

Following the signature of the agreement between the Ministry of the Environment and Sustainable Development and FAPBM, relating to the definition of the operational modalities between the two entities within the framework of the project, the recruitment of the Management Unit team and the constitution of the Project Steering Committee are continuing.

The kick-off workshop planned for the second quarter will be held once the project team is completed and the Steering Committee is in place.

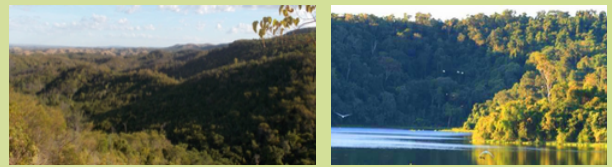
The purpose of the GEF 6 - WWF project is to extend and consolidate the network of marine protected areas.

The Special Intervention Fund, an additional support of the Foundation to protected areas in the current context of crisis

The Foundation's Special Intervention Fund (SIF) allows managers to address unpredictable situations that, if left unresolved, lead to a loss of biodiversity or jeopardize the conservation activities of the protected area management team. In the current context where protected areas are facing increasing pressures, the SIF provides support to managers to help them preserve the ecological integrity of the protected area.

All managers are eligible to apply to the Foundation for consideration of their case to benefit from this fund. It is thus not restricted to protected areas already supported by FAPBM.

Moreover, no periodicity is fixed for the submission of this request, provided that the urgent, unforeseeable and punctual nature of the situation can be justified.



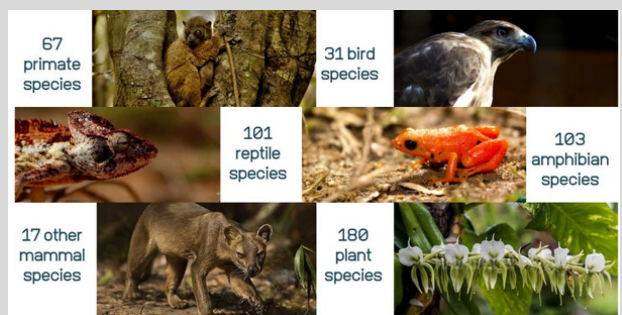
Protected areas of the Bongolova Forest Corridor (left) and Ankarafantsika (right), among the SIF beneficiaries in 2019

To submit a request to FAPBM, the entity in charge of the protected area has to send a written request to the Executive Director of the Foundation, detailing the nature of the emergency, the activities to be carried out, the entity responsible for the activities (the PA in charge or a third party) and the budget.

Celebration of the Month of Nature

The Foundation participated in the Month of Nature, a digital movement led by the Ministry of Environment and Sustainable Development (MEDD), which took place from 5 June to 5 July and involved various conservation actors in Madagascar. This campaign aimed to mobilize the country's public with regard to the issues represented by the protection of the environment and Madagascar's unique biodiversity.

For FAPBM, the emphasis is on the fact that the 36 protected areas financed by the Foundation are a shelter for 499 species of plants and animals that are found nowhere else and that risk extinction without these protected areas.



Species of fauna and flora conserved within the 36 protected areas benefiting from FAPBM funding

More information on :

