

## FUNDING

**All about FAR-NAP : Q&A with Ranto RANDRIANTSOA, Grants Officer**

## PARTNERSHIP

**FAPBM supports MEDD initiative : Renewing environmental and social safeguard framework**

**Capacity building of the FAPBM on the new Practice standards for Environmental Funds**

## PROTECTED AREAS

**Mahavavy Kinkony Complex : Development of the raffia sector**

## BIODIVERSITY MONTH

**Focus on solutions**

**The President of FAPBM's Board of Trustees states that community support and commitment are key to biodiversity conservation**

**Biodiversity drawn by Malagasy artists**

**FAPBM for Menabe Antimena preservation**



## FUNDING

### All about FAR-NAP : Q&A with Ranto RANDRIANTSOA



(C) FAPBM

**Q : Can you briefly introduce yourself to our readers?**

A : I am RANDRIANTSOA Ranto H., Grants Officer of the FAPBM. Basically, I work on review and assignment of protected areas financings, including the FAR-NAP since its creation in 2020.

**Q : What is the FAR-NAP? What results are you expecting for?**

A: The New Protected Areas Capacity Building Support Fund or FAR-NAP is a fund dedicated to support NPAs in acquiring additional knowledge on the status, wealth, and/or changing management contexts to enable them to better guide their intervention strategies. We expect to help NPA managers implementing the best possible management plan.

**Q : Why did you set up this new type of funding?**

A : Presently, we propose an Emergency Fund (FIS). Unfortunately, many applications by several NPA managers have been rejected because they were not eligible for this Fund. Yet these activities are relevant to the sustainability of these NPAs and the successful implementation of planned activities. The FAR-NAP is therefore complementary to the FIS.

**Q : Why did you create the FAR-NAP as you have already allocated annual grants to PAs?**

A : Because only activities responding to unforeseen situations are eligible for the FAR-NAP. Thus, if a request is foreseeable, the manager must include it in his annual work plan and the activity will be funded through the annual grants. The other particularity of the FAR-NAP is that it is open to all NPAs, not only those that we fund.

**Q : How many sites have already benefited from FAR-NAP since its creation?**

A : To date only Montagne des Français has benefited from the FAR-NAP. However, we believe that a large number of NPAs are likely to be interested in this funding if we better communicate on it.

**Q : Can you give us examples of eligible activities for FAR-NAP?**

A : This Fund intends to address the following needs:

- Research on conservation or non-conservation target species, which of particular interest to the NPA, which require further investigation into their status (viability, local species variability, distribution, etc.)
- Studies: feasibility studies, data updating, organisation of workshops or meetings to manage an unforeseen crisis.
- Acquisition of new knowledge or new technologies for the protected area management (SMART, remote sensing and GIS, aerial monitoring, GLAD, ...).

**Q : Is the allocated amount to one NPA limited?**

A: There is no ceiling on the funding. It is up to the managers to apply according to their needs.

**Q : So, only NPAs can make request to the FAR-NAP? What are the eligibility criteria?**

A: Only New Protected Areas (NPAs) that have been legally created, have management tools at their disposal, such as the Annual Management Plan (PAG) and the Environmental and Social Safeguarding Plan (PGES), and have an Annual Work Plan (PTA) with a budget, are eligible. The managers should justify the activity relevance, the added value of the requested activities and the desired impacts in order to strengthen the protected area management to the Foundation.

**Q : How can a protected area apply and until when?**

A : The FAR-NAP is a funding line available at any time. Applications should be sent to the Foundation. For more information, NPA managers can contact me at [randriantsoa@fapbm.org](mailto:randriantsoa@fapbm.org)

**PARTNERSHIP**

**FAPBM supports MEDD initiative :  
Renewing an environmental and  
social safeguard framework  
(CGES)**



(c)Asitu - Mahavau Kinikonu Complex

As part of the new governance of protected areas, the Ministry of Environment and Sustainable Development (MEDD) is proceeding with a review of the CGES of protected areas (PA). This follows the national workshop on reconciling social safeguards and poverty reduction, organised jointly by the University of Antananarivo and Bangor University (UK), under the sponsorship of the MEDD, on October 8-9 2020. Specific tools have already been available (ONE, MEDD, etc.). But this new framework aims to respond to some of their shortcomings, as highlighted by the studies presented and the discussions held during the national workshop.

Firstly, it aims to clarify the role of PA managers in sustainable development and poverty alleviation. The concept of social safeguarding concerning the management of PAs is based on conventional principles of projects risk management: conservation activities should thus "do no more harm/not impoverish" communities. The concept of poverty alleviation and sustainable development is a cross-sectoral issue involving shared responsibility of multiple actors.

This reform will clarify the operational guiding tools of social safeguard policy. Several social safeguarding tools have existed, containing sometimes repeated information that make them difficult to understand and apply. In practical terms, this new framework will specify, among other things, the ESMP (Environmental and social Management Plan) planning cycle. It will also propose an assessment mechanism, which can determine whether the amount of support actually compensates the communities affected by the PA's activities.

Finally, it will clarify the mechanisms and procedures for participation in decision making, contestation, conflict and complaint management and sanctions. This will facilitate the understanding of the responsibilities and obligations of the actors and sectors involved.

This reform will be carried out inclusively with the PA managers and their partners. Consultative workshops are planned to analyse and revise the existing situation, before producing guiding tools. The implementation of these tools-guides in one protected area will be conducted before finalising the reform of the environmental and social framework, planned for September 2021.

The FAPBM supports this initiative of the MEDD, especially as the CGES is an important tool for evaluating the impacts of FAPBM grants on local development.

**Capacity building of the FAPBM  
on the new Practice standards  
for Environmental Funds**



(c)CFA

With the aim to be in line with the new Practice standards for conservation trust funds (CTF), developed by Conservation Finance Alliance (CFA), FAPBM is taking part in virtual information sessions, hosted by the CFA's Environmental Funds Working Group. CFA is the leading professional association

for conservation finance experts and practitioners.

The Practice Standards for CTF are intended to serve as a tool for improving design, management and monitoring-evaluation of CTFs. Updated in 2020, the changes in the new standards relate particularly to risk management and safeguards, cross-cutting themes (communication, human resources, monitoring and evaluation, and technology), asset management and operations. Since February 2021, monthly webinars focusing on specific content of the 2020 edition are monthly held.

Learn more:  
<https://www.conservationfinancealliance.org/practice-standards-for-ctfs-update>

## Mahavavy Kinkony Complex : Development of the raffia sector

(c)Asity - Mahavavy Kinkony Complex



Final destination: Majunga, La Petite plage. In a handicraft store, a young lady proposes manufactured items of raffia. The tourist can be surprised to find labelled NETSY bags and carpets in the middle of this souk. To the one who asks and knows how to listen, she would gladly tell the story of this label.

77km from Katsepy (Majunga, West of Madagascar), raffia zone have found refuge within the protected area of the Mahavavy Kinkony complex (CMK). It is important to know that raffia plays a key role in wetlands water retention in and around the protected area. Ten years ago, however, the raffia fields had been disappearing under the threat of constant rice fields expansion. This loss would have inevitably led to a drought in the region and reduce income for the families who make a living from them.

In 2011, Asity Madagascar, the manager of CMK, started a vast project to enhance the value of raffia. They have raised awareness on ecological and economic value of this resource. They have provided capacity building in rational management of the resource (restoration, firewalling, cutting and drying techniques, etc.). They have also trained in natural dyeing techniques and in processing fibre into handicrafts. Since 2020, a NETSY Label has been awarded for raffia products from CMK. This guarantees the natural origin and a responsible, fair and environmentally friendly supply.

The purchase price of raffia fibres by collectors has risen from 500 to 2000 MGA/kg in 10 years (3000 MGA/kg for dyed fibre). The sector has generated between MGA 2,000,000 and MGA 6,000,000 annually for the communities. In 2021, it is benefiting to 100 households from 6 associations. In return, families have been actively participating in the conservation of

this resource and thus have been contributing to preserving the protected area.

The raffia production is mainly sold on local markets, including a shop in Majunga. The associations are considering exporting, they are looking for distribution channels and are actively working to comply with the quality requirements of the international market.

To support the protected area: [rtovo.son@gmail.com](mailto:rtovo.son@gmail.com)



(c)All photos: Asity - Mahavavy Kinkony Complex

**BIODIVERSITY MONTH**

**Focus on solutions**



Thanks to the impulse of the Ministry of Environment and Sustainable Development (MEDD), Madagascar Youth Biodiversity Network (MYBN) has federated several organizations around the celebration of the Biodiversity Month which takes place from May, 19th to June, 2nd, 2021. The 2021 slogan is "We are part of the solution". The slogan was chosen to be a continuation of the momentum generated last year under the overarching theme, "Our solutions are in nature", which served as a reminder that biodiversity remains the answer to several sustainable development challenges. From nature-based solutions to climate, health issues, food / water security and sustainable livelihoods, biodiversity is the foundation upon which we can build back better. As the world continues to grapple with the pandemic, Biodiversity Day 2021 has been celebrated virtually. FAPBM, alongside with various organisation, is raising awareness on solutions provided locally by multiple citizens. Get involved, follow up [here](#).

**The President of FAPBM’s Board of Trustees states that community support and commitment are key to biodiversity conservation**



Mrs Sahondra RAJOELINA, President of the Board of Trustees of the FAPBM was the guest of an episode of Voix Durables, a programme of the Institut de la Francophonie pour le Développement Durable

(OIF-IFDD). Through a series of interviews, this podcast highlights ideas, initiatives and new ways to protect the environment. On this issue dedicated to biodiversity, the podcast focused on Madagascar.

“There is a point that is very important for the preservation of biodiversity, that is the communication with local communities bordering the protected areas because in the long run they will be the managers of these natural resources. Without the support and commitment of these communities, we cannot properly protect. Communities are the first partners in environmental protection”, said the President of FAPBM’s Board of Trustees.

Listen to the podcast [here](#) from May, 27th

**Biodiversity drawn by Malagasy artists**



For the biodiversity Month, the FAPBM mobilized artists to raise the voice of the biodiversity. Several of them kindly lent their paint brushes to represent endemic and endangered

species. Art is one way to catch the public’s attention on the biodiversity’s values and issues, but also to emphasize the ability of everyone to speak out for biodiversity. Each artwork has been presented on the social media of the FAPBM from May,22nd to June,5th 2021.

Find us on [Facebook](#), [Instagram](#), [Twitter](#), [LinkedIn](#) @FAPBM

**The FAPBM for the safeguarding of Menabe Antimena**



The FAPBM is supporting a photo contest on Menabe’s biodiversity, organised by the Alliance Voahary Gasy (AVG) as part of its #Save\_Menabe\_Antimena

campaign. Area of expression for photographers, professional or amateurs, they are invited to submit a picture of Menabe’s biodiversity until May, 22nd . Although the Menabe Antimena protected area is not yet supported by the FAPBM, in view of the emergency of the ecological disaster that is weighing on it, the FAPBM is joining its voice to that of civil society. Highlighting the richness but also the threats of the protected area, is a way to mobilize everyone to find sustainable solutions.

For more information on the competition [here](#)