



# MARINE PROTECTED AREA OF AMBODIVAHIBE

## Category:

Harmonious Protected Landscape, Category V

## Manager:

Conservation International (CI)

## Area:

39,794 ha

## Geolocation:

Province of Antsiranana; Region of Diana; District of Antsiranana II

## International label:

Key Biodiversity Area (KBA),  
Priority Area for Plant Conservation (PAPC)

## NAMING

This New Protected Area (NPA) is named after one of the rural municipalities in which it is located.

## FLAGSHIP SPECIES

Ambodivahibe is a narrow and steep continental shelf, resulting in **deep and narrow bays with canyons leading to deep water**, where strong upwelling is observed. This site covers the continental shelf from the shoreline to the shelf edge, encompassing many types of bays and islands. The NPA is characterized by habitats specific to the marine and coastal ecoregion: **coral reefs, mangroves, seagrass areas, beach, rocky shores and islets**. They are nesting sites, feeding areas, development areas and dormitories of several species including sea turtles, terns, bats, crustaceans, reef fish, mollusks and echinoderms. Most of the fauna found there are species adapted to high salinity.



# 33

**SPECIES OF BIRDS**

including  
2 endangered and  
1 vulnerable



# 2

**SPECIES OF MARINE TURTLES**

including 1 critically endangered (the hawksbill turtle) and 1 endangered (the green turtle)



# 1

**SPECIE OF BATS**

(Madagascar flying fox)



# 91

**SPECIES OF SEAWEEDS**



# 10

**SPECIES OF SEA GRASS**



**SHARKS**

including 1 critically endangered (the scalloped hammerhead) and 2 vulnerable



# 5

**SPECIES OF RAYS**

including  
1 endangered



# 271

**SPECIES OF FISH**



# 84

**SPECIES OF CORALS AND SPONGES**



# 54

**SPECIES OF MOLLUSKS**



# 11

**SPECIES OF CRABS**

The Ambodivahibe Marine Protected Area (MPA) is recognized as a site with a natural resilience to climate change.

## PROTECTED AREA SPECIFICITIES

### LANDSCAPES AND HABITATS



Coral reefs, mangroves, seagrass beds, beaches, rocky coasts and islets.

### PRESSURES AND THREATS



Selective cutting of mangroves, temporary migration in some localities, presence of intruders during the closure of the octopus fishery, destruction of mangroves, irrational exploitation of resources by intruders, illegal and excessive fishing practices by migrant fishermen, increase in demand, insufficient control and surveillance; natural factors (increase in ambient temperature, disturbance of rainfall).



### ECONOMIC VALUE

The **fishery resources** constitute a means of subsistence for the population living along the park. The NPA of Ambodivahibe supplies a large part of the halieutic products (fish, shrimps, crabs, octopus) of the market of the city of Antsiranana.



### LOCAL COMMUNITIES INITIATIVES

The **joint management** set up in the MPA emphasizes the responsibility of the local populations. This is reflected in the intervention of associations and management committees in the management of the land: «Locally Managed Marine Area» (LMMA), the «Vondron'Olona Ifotony» (VOI) or the «Communautés de Base» (COBA).

Within the framework of the fishing management in their respective areas, the LMMAs have established «**dina**» (**local social convention**), which translates into regulations that are to be applied in the practice of fishing. In addition to these groups, the local communities also participate in **patrolling and surveillance activities** in the MPA.

**1,777 inhabitants** are directly benefiting from the ecosystem services provided by the protected area.



### FAPBM'S EFFORTS

Financial support from FAPBM to the Ambodivahibe marine protected area began in 2022. This funding ensures the **implementation of conservation activities (patrols and surveillance, ecological monitoring, IEC, etc.), support to communities and local management structures, and covers part of the salary and operating costs of the management unit.**



[www.fapbm.org](http://www.fapbm.org)

Created in 2005, the **Madagascar Protected Areas and Biodiversity Fund (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).