



HARMONIOUS PROTECTED LANDSCAPE OF THE IBITY MASSIF



Category:

Protected Harmonious Landscape,
Category V

Manager:

Missouri Botanical Garden (MBG)

Area:

6,136 ha

Geolocation:

Province of Antananarivo; Region of Vakinankaratra;
District of Antsirabe II

International label:

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

FLAGSHIP SPECIES

The New Protected Area (NPA) is essentially a large **mountain populated by herbaceous dominated vegetation (four main types)**, largely shaped by the actions of fires.

The **woody vegetation** occupies only very small areas. The great importance of the quartzite's outcropping is conducive to the **rocky vegetation** where we observe an important procession of local endemic species. The massif also shelters a not negligible surface of **forest of tapia**.



43

**SPECIES
OF BIRDS**
including
1 endangered



304

**SPECIES
OF PLANTS**
including
236 endemic
to Madagascar,
of which
2 are endangered
and **2** vulnerable ;
12 local endemics
including **2** critically
endangered
species, **4** species
of aloes of which
3 are endangered



5

**SPECIES OF
AMPHIBIANS**



16

**SPECIES
OF REPTILES**
including
1 chameleon
species classified
as vulnerable
and **1** other local
endemic species
also classified as
vulnerable



1

**SPECIES
OF BATS**



10

**SPECIES
OF OTHER
MAMMALS**



PROTECTED AREA SPECIFICITIES

LANDSCAPES AND HABITATS



Dominant secondary meadows and pastures, degraded sclerophyllous open forest, forest belts in thalwegs attached to mid-elevation humid dense forest, ericoid mountain thicket, traces of thicket, rupicolous vegetation, marsh and peatland vegetation.

PRESSURES AND THREATS



Bush fires, charcoal production, exploitation of non-timber forest products, mining (gold panning).



ECONOMIC VALUE

The great economic importance of the Ibity Massif is due to its role as the **source of streams and rivers that irrigate several thousand hectares of rice fields in the surrounding area.**

The lower slopes of the massif are used for **grazing, collecting medicinal plants and wood.**

Tourism, although on a small scale, also provides modest economic benefits to the local population.



LOCAL COMMUNITIES INITIATIVES

The governance adopted for the Ibity Massif is a collaborative participatory management between representatives of local populations grouped in management committees (COGE) and MBG. The local community is also involved **in securing the NPA through conservation activities, mainly patrols.**



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FAPBM'S EFFORTS

FAPBM's financial support to the new Ibity Massif protected area began in 2022. This funding ensures the implementation of **conservation activities (patrols and surveillance, firefighting, IEC, etc.), support to local management structures, strengthening of the sustainable financing mechanism through ecotourism, and covers part of the salary and operating costs of the management unit.**



Thicket © FAPBM

Ibity forest © FAPBM



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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).