



© Gregoire Dubois, Ring-tailed Lemur, Madagascar

8.10 Madagascar

Protected and conserved areas in Madagascar⁶¹

Madagascar has 157 protected areas covering 33,242 km² of the land and 8,998 km² of the ocean (UNEP-WCMC & IUCN, 2019k).

Madagascar took the challenge from the Sydney World Parks Congress to triple the surface area of marine protected areas, an objective that has been largely achieved. Some sites are still in the process of being set up and others in the process of extension. A focus of this work is to ensure the participation of local communities. The biggest challenge currently is the effective management and sustainable funding of these protected areas. In addition, corridors of protected areas have been established over a total length of approximately 1,200 km, linking link six protected areas which are part of the World Heritage Sites.

Transboundary protected and conserved areas

Madagascar includes part of the Western Indian Ocean Transfrontier Marine Park.

Policy context

A comprehensive report on legislation and policy related to protected area management, governance, and equity was

undertaken by the BIOPAMA programme. It identified 75 relevant laws and policies in Madagascar (Tessema, 2019).

Key species⁶²

Madagascar is estimated to have between 13,000 and 14,000 plant species, 80% of which are endemic. Endemism is particularly high amongst baobabs, palm trees and orchids, including six of the world's eight species of baobab. Likewise, mammals also display a high level of endemism, particularly amongst lemurs and other primates. Madagascar is home to many different species of birds. Knowledge of the invertebrates of Madagascar is incomplete, but there are high levels of endemism amongst ants, freshwater shrimps and crabs, and crayfish. Likewise, freshwater and marine fish, amphibians, reptiles all display high levels of endemism, some close to 100%. 23 out of the 37 sea mammal species of the Western Indian Ocean Region have been observed in Madagascar's coastal zones.

Pressures and threats⁶³

The major threats to Madagascar's biodiversity include: deforestation and forest degradation; illegal exploitation of natural resources, including timber, as well as many terrestrial and marine species; the impact of alien invasive species and disease; and as environmental impacts from extractive industries such as mining. Climate change remains a short and long-term threat to Madagascar's ecosystems, particularly marine ecosystems.

61 The section draws on information contained in Madagascar's Sixth National Report to the CBD (Republic of Madagascar, 2019).

62 The section draws on information contained in Madagascar's Fifth National Report to the CBD (Republic of Madagascar, 2014).

63 The section draws on information contained in Madagascar's Fifth National Report to the CBD and its Second NBSAP (Republic of Madagascar, 2014; 2016).

Figure 8.19 Madagascar Summary



Total Population (millions)
26.26



Population growth (annual %)
2.70



Surface area (km²) (thousands)
587.30



GDP (current US\$) (billions)
12.10



GDP growth (annual %)
5.20

Source: The World Bank Group, 2018.

Area Protected:

157 protected areas



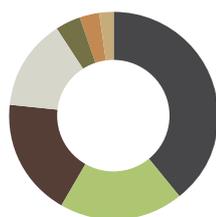
covering **33 242 km²** of land



covering **8 998 km²** of ocean

Source: UNEP-WCMC & IUCN, (2019k)

Protected and conserved areas in Madagascar in IUCN Management Categories



- Not Applicable (No. 5)
- Not Reported (No. 61)
- V. Protected Landscape/Seascape (No. 29)
- IV. Habitat/Species Management (No. 22)
- II. National Park (No. 30)
- Ia. Strict Nature Reserve (No. 3)
- VI. Protected Area with Sustainable Use of Natural Resources (No. 7)

Source: UNEP-WCMC & IUCN (2019k)

Coverage of protected areas in Madagascar

Type of protected area	Area protected or conserved*	Area protected or conserved**
Terrestrial and inland water	5.59%	Not found
Coastal and marine	0.75%	Not found

* WDPA dataset

** From National Report on Biodiversity

Source: UNEP-WCMC & IUCN (2019k).

Protected and conserved areas designated as global sites of importance in Madagascar

Global designation	No. of sites
UNESCO Man and Biosphere Reserves	3
UNESCO World Heritage Sites (Natural or Mixed)	2
Wetlands of International Importance (Ramsar sites)	20

Source: Ramsar (2019); UNESCO (2019a, 2019b).

Protected and conserved areas in Madagascar in IUCN Governance Types



- C. Private Governance (No. 2)
- B. Shared Governance (No. 2)
- A. Governance by Government (No. 8)

Source: UNEP-WCMC & IUCN (2019k).

National designations of protected and conserved areas in Madagascar

National designation	No.	Area (km ²)
Hunting Reserve	2	150
Protected Harmonious Landscape	1	139
Natural Park	1	3 649
Paysage Harmonieux Protégé	20	14 015
National Park	26	19 136
Réserve de Ressources Naturelles	1	443
Proposed Protected Area	14	5 215
Marine Park	4	119
Marine National Park	1	0*
Collaborative Fishery Management Area	1	2 865
Strict Nature Reserve	3	1 356
Reserve de ressource naturel	1	443
Proposed Marine Park	1	1 564
Not Reported	1	469
Classified Forest	1	400
New Protected Area	5	3 701
Special Reserve	22	3 550
Locally Managed Marine Area	26	2 173
Marine Protected Area	1	451

Source: UNEP-WCMC & IUCN (2019k)

* No area reported to the WDPA

Priority areas for conservation



50 sites
Alliance for Zero Extinction sites



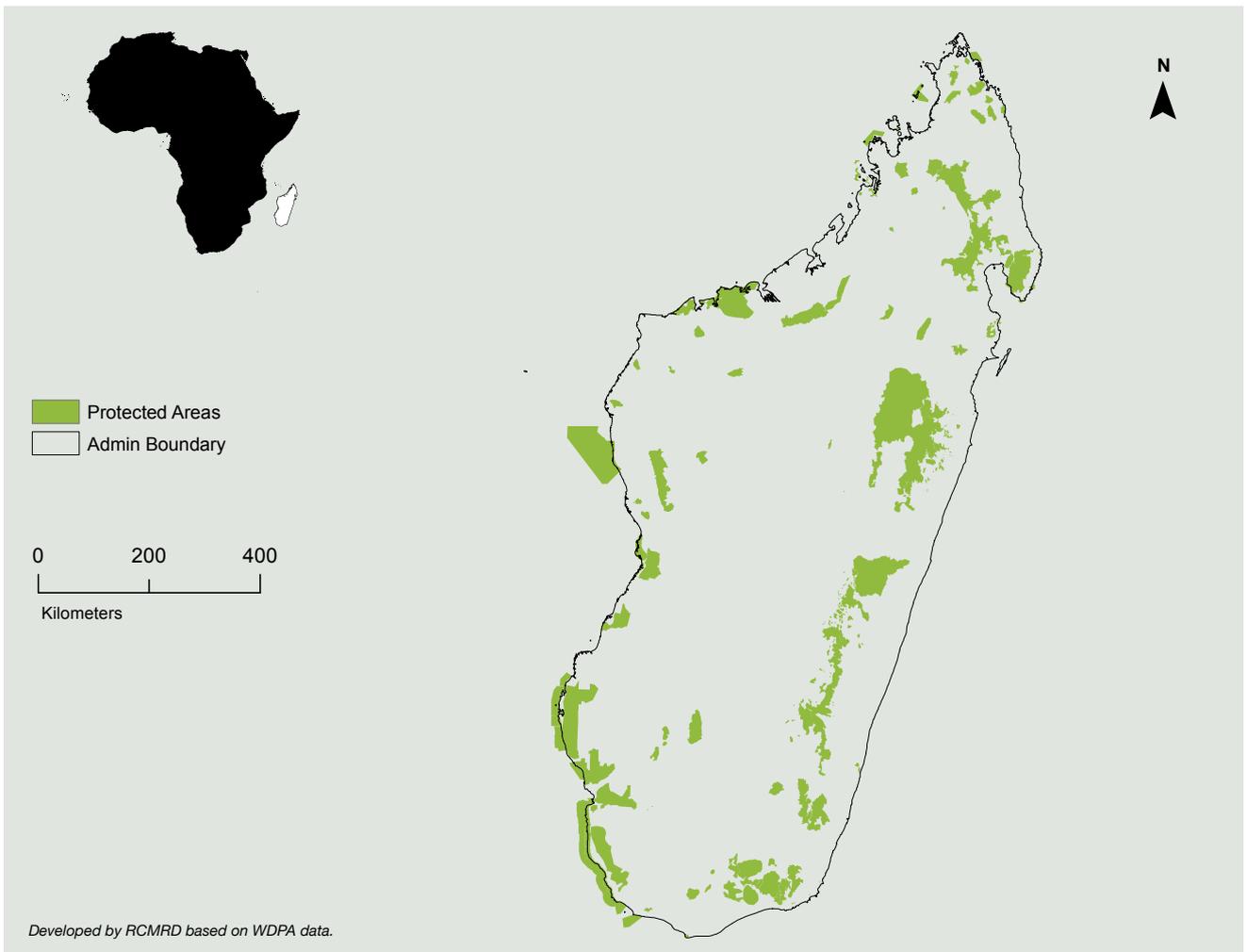
74 sites
Important Bird & Biodiversity Areas



227 sites
Key Biodiversity Areas

Source: AZE Secretariat (2019); BirdLife International (2019b, 2019c).

Figure 8.20 Madagascar protected areas



© Gregoire Dubois, Panther Chameleon, Madagascar