



USAID | **MADAGASCAR**
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SEMI-ANNUAL PROGRESS REPORT

*Maintaining Biological Integrity of Critical Biodiversity Habitats
Associate Cooperative Agreement No. 687-A-00-04-00090-00*

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PROJECT SUMMARY

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LIST OF ACRONYMS

ADRA	Adventist Development and Relief Agency
AFD	<i>Agence Française de Développement</i>
ANGAP	<i>Association Nationale pour la Gestion des Aires Protégées - Parc National de Madagascar</i>
PNM	
BBOP	Business and Biodiversity Offset Program
BIMP	Birdlife International Madagascar Programme
BP/BPC	Business Planning for Conservation
C2D	<i>Contrat Désendettement Développement</i>
CAG	Conservation Action Grants
CAZ	Corridor Ankeniheny Zahamena
CBD	<i>Conférence pour la Diversité Biologique</i>
CDFIDE	<i>Comité pour le Développement des Instruments de Financement Durable pour l'Environnement</i>
CDM	Clean Development Mechanism
CEF	<i>Cantonement des Eaux & Forêts</i>
CELCO	<i>Cellule de Coordination PE3</i>
CEP	<i>Commission Environnement – Pêche</i>
CIMF	Comité Inter-Ministériel Mines Forêts
CIREEF	<i>Circonscription de l'Environnement, des Eaux et Forêts</i>
CISCO	<i>Circonscription Scolaire</i>
CMP	<i>Comité Multilocal de Planification</i>
CNE/NEC	National Environmental Council
CNTF	<i>Comité National Technique Forestier</i>
COAP	<i>Code des Aires Protégées</i>
COBA	<i>Communauté de Base</i>
COFAV	Corridor Fandriana-Vondrozo
CSPN	Higher Advisory Board for Nature Protection
DEAP	<i>Droit d'Entrée aux Aires Protégées</i>
DGEFF	<i>Direction Générale de l'Environnement, des Eaux et Forêts</i>
DGEM	Direction Générale des Mines
DP	<i>Directeur de Parc</i>
DREEFT	<i>Direction Régionale de l'Environnement, des Eaux et Forêts et du Tourisme</i>
DSAP	Direction de l'Appui aux Systèmes des Aires Protégées
DVG/GVD	Durban Vision Group
DVRN	Direction sur la Valorisation des Ressources Naturelles
EIA	Environmental Impact Assessment
EP3	Madagascar's Environmental Program Phase 3
EPP	Ecole Primaire Publique
ERPA	Emission Reduction Purchase Agreement
ERI	Ecoregional Initiatives
EU	European Union
FA	Facilitating Agent
FAPBM	<i>Fondation pour les Aires Protégées et la Biodiversité à Madagascar</i>
FBM	<i>Fikambanana Bongolava Maintso</i>
FSC	Forest Stewardship Council
FTHM	Finances Technology High Management Conseils
GCF	<i>Gestion Contractualisée des Forêts</i>
GDRN	<i>Gestion Durable des Ressources Naturelles</i>
GEF	Global Environment Fund
GELOSE	<i>Gestion Locale Sécurisée</i>
GERP	Groupe d'Etudes et de Recherches pour les Primates
GIS	Geographic Information System
GOF	Government of France
GOM	Government of Madagascar
ICRAF	International Centre for Research in Agroforestry
IDA	International Development Association
IDEE	<i>Initiatives Développement Enjeux Spatiaux</i>
IFC	International Finance Corporation
IEG	<i>Indice d'Efficacité de Gestion</i>
IUCN	International Union for Conservation of Nature and Natural Resources

KfW	Kreditanstalt für Wiederaufbau
MAE	<i>Ministère des Affaires Etrangères</i>
MAEP	<i>Ministère de l'Agriculture, de l'Élevage et de la Pêche</i>
MAP	Madagascar Action Plan
MBG	Missouri Botanical Garden
MECIE	<i>Mise en Compatibilité des Investissements</i>
MEM	<i>Ministère de l'Énergie et des Mines</i>
MFPAB	Madagascar Foundation for Protected Area and Biodiversity
MEEFT	<i>Ministère de l'Environnement et des Eaux et Forêts et du Tourisme</i>
MENRS	Ministère de l'Éducation Nationale et de Recherche Scientifique
MPA	Marine Protected Areas
NGO	Non-governmental organization
NP	National Park
NPA	New Protected Areas
NWPH	Nature Wealth Power Health
OMNIS	Office for National Mining and Strategic Industries
ONE	<i>Office Nationale de l'Environnement</i>
ONTM	<i>Office Nationale du Tourisme à Madagascar</i>
PA	Protected Area
PAG	<i>Plan d'Aménagement et de Gestion</i>
PBZT	<i>Parc Botanique et Zoologique de Tsimbazaza</i>
PES	Payment for Ecosystem Services
PGD	<i>Plan de Gestion de Développement</i>
PGES	<i>Plan de Gestion de l'Environnement et Social</i>
PGRM	<i>Programme de Gestion des Ressources Minières</i>
PLACAZ	<i>Plateforme du Corridor Ankeniheny Zahamena</i>
PME	Project Management Entity
PNAM	<i>Parc National Analamazaotra Mantadia</i>
PRD	<i>Plan Rural de Développement</i>
PRSP	Poverty Reduction Strategy Paper
PTA	<i>Plan de Travail Annuel</i>
QMM	QIT Madagascar Minéraux S.A.
REBIOMA	<i>Réseau pour la Biodiversité de Madagascar</i>
REDD	<i>Reducing Emissions from Deforestation and Degradation</i>
REPC	<i>Réseau d'Éducateurs Professionnels pour la Conservation</i>
SANREM	Sustainable and Natural Resource Management
SAPM	<i>Système des Aires Protégées de Madagascar</i>
SAGE	<i>Service d'Appui à la Gestion de l'Environnement</i>
SNGF	Silo National des Graines Forestières
SO	Strategic Objective
SPF	<i>Service de Pérennisation Financière</i>
STTA	Short-term technical assistant
TAMS	<i>Tetik'Asa Mampody Savoka</i>
TBD	To be determined
TBE	Tableau de Bord Environnemental
TDY	Temporary Duty
TFT	Tropical Forest Trust
TGK (1, 2, 3)	Tsitongambarika
TGRN	<i>Transfert de Gestion des Ressources Naturelles</i>
UC PE3	<i>Unité de Coordination PE3</i>
USAID	United States Agency for International Development
VNA	<i>Vomieran'ny Ala</i>
WB	The World Bank
WCPA	World Commission for Protected Areas
WCS	Wildlife Conservation Society
WED/JME	Journée Mondiale de l'Environnement
ZPC/CPZ	Conservation Priority Zone
ZUC	Zone d'Utilisation Concertée
ZOC	Zone d'Occupation Concertée

I. INTRODUCTION

This report covers activities for the period from January 1 to June 30, 2008 for the USAID MIARO Program under the “Maintaining Biological Integrity of Critical Biodiversity Habitats,” Leader Award No. LAG-A-00-99-00046-00. This is the main program through which Conservation International, WWF and the Wildlife Conservation Society provide coordinated technical support to the creation and effective management of the Madagascar Protected Area System (SAPM).

Just less than five years ago, President Marc Ravalomana declared at the World Parks Congress in Durban that his country would expand its protected area system to cover approximately 10% of the country’s surface. Since that time enormous progress has been made in turning that “Durban Vision” into a reality. In June 2008 there are approximately 5.5 million hectares protected or where conservation organizations, whether international, national or local, are actively working to secure the conservation of natural habitats. This achievement has already been an enormous task that has required unparalleled collaboration between diverse organizations from government ministries, conservation NGOs and rural development partners all the way down to the communities living around the new protected areas. A new protected area system has been designed, huge datasets on biodiversity distribution have been compiled and analyzed to identify the most important sites to protect, the very definition of protected area has been teased apart and reconstructed, new models for engaging communities in conservation have been conceived and tested, new tools for improving management effectiveness and monitoring have been developed and adopted, and new financial resources have been found and put to work to conserve Madagascar’s unique natural heritage.

The conservation community in Madagascar is currently engaged in the largest task it has ever faced. In the field the promoters of the new protected areas are in process of detailed negotiations with stakeholders to agree on the path of over 10,000 kilometers of protected area limits, access and resource use rights and zoning. They are identifying the rural development needs of the country’s most marginalized communities and establishing the foundations for good governance starting with sound natural resource management. At the policy level there is still work to do to provide a legal framework that supports and reflects the policies for protected areas that have emerged from the past several years of debate. Defining the final priority sites to include within the SAPM is also essential. As the most obvious biodiversity-rich areas are protected, the choice of the final sites to include in the protected area system to ensure that it conserves the full representation of Madagascar’s biodiversity will become more difficult. As the SAPM becomes a reality, new actors are getting involved in conservation and their capacity needs to be built up. Similarly, new finance is needed to pay for the expanded system and the government and conservation organizations need to leverage money from previously untapped sources. The current challenges for SAPM have ensured that the first 6 months of 2008 have been a busy, but very productive, period for the MIARO program.

During this first semester, several new guides and management tools have been developed for the SAPM. Specifically, a guide on natural resource use within protected areas has been produced, guidance has been provided to protected area promoters on social and environmental impact assessments and production of social safeguard plans.

This period was also characterized by the amendment of the COAP law (Code des Aires Protégées) and its application decree (Décret d’Application) that is needed to update the legislation to include new protected area categories and governance types. Many new areas are proposed for addition into the law, such as the sustainable use of natural resources, zoning and marine protected areas. This legal text refinement process is still on going and will be completed by the end of this year.

In face of the upcoming expiration of the Inter-ministerial executive order related to the Mining and Forestry, the priority-setting group of the SAPM commission has made significant progress towards updating the national priority setting map, by integrating new biological data and comparing the detail results from different prioritization methodologies such as Zonation, Marxan and the Key biodiversity Area (KBA) approach. This map will be used by the protected area promoters and the MEEFT as a critical tool for fixing the areas to be ultimately included within the SAPM.

Perhaps even more than elsewhere, climate change has become an important issue in Madagascar. The country has already measured significant changes within the last 50 years and climate models for the region predict further substantial drying and temperature increases, particularly in the south of the country. As a first step towards sharing Madagascar-specific data with a wide audience, a Climate Change workshop was held in Antananarivo in January 2008. This was a first opportunity to bring together a forum of international and national experts with national policy makers to analyze the threats on biodiversity and human livelihoods. The workshop provided a set of recommendations for building climate change resilience and for developing adaptation measures that are already being used to set research and future work priorities

The system of marine and coastal protected areas has developed less quickly than for the terrestrial sites, but progress has been made on several fronts during this reporting period. Two main documents are produced to help the promoters to move forward, the “document d’orientation” and the “manuel de procedure”. These documents will be shortly officially presented and validated within the Fishing and Environment Commission (CEP). A database of marine biodiversity distribution has also been built up and will form the basis of priority setting like that done for the terrestrial sites.

In USAID Ecoregions, local consultations were completed in 20 communes for CAZ and the management plan is being drafted. Local management structure have also been established in several areas through a variety of mechanisms including management transfers, direct conservation contracts and management contracts between local associations and the government. For COFAV, local consultations have been completed for 18 communes and continuing. As in CAZ, some local management units have been supported through conservation contracts and others already exist in management transfers. In Anosy, the documents for Tsitongambarika are ready to be submitted to DSAP to obtain the protection status of the protected area and the site of Ambatotsirongorongo for the definitive protection status.

RM2 has continued the support to New Protected Areas (NAPs) of the SAPM, particularly for the management planning process. This has been facilitated by the introduction of new software called Miradi that WWF has acquired the license for using it with all partners. Governance and sustainability issues are being addressed through the process as all of the NAPs that MIARO is supporting are developing similar governance models.

RM 4 has continued work towards implementing sustainable financing mechanisms. Efforts to support Tany Meva have continued with the development of its five year investment strategy. In the field, capacity building is being reinforced with the training on community forest carbon project development with the support of Plan Vivo.

MIARO has continued to work with the Foundation for Protected Areas and Biodiversity of Madagascar (FAPBM) in developing the documents and strategies needed to be fully functioning. In addition, MIARO is currently finalizing the selection and prioritization criteria for Protected Areas funding mechanisms of the Madagascar Protected Areas and Biodiversity. During the reporting period

the commitments to the FAPBM's capital surpassed the original target of \$50 million that was supposed to be attained by the end of 2008.

This period has seen a great step forward from the Ministry of Environment, Water and Forests and Tourism. The Sustainable Financing Unit (SPF) has been officially set up and replaced the CDFIDE, showing the commitment of the Ministry to the issue. MIARO has reinforced this unit by providing technical assistance to develop a sustainable financing strategy for environmental actions in Madagascar. MIARO has also carried further studies related to watershed based PES mechanisms and Green Fees. The long awaited C2D debt relief contract that MIARO supported is finally completed with final signatures.

For the Ecotourism concessions, the concession framework documents such as the concession contract and its cahier de charges are completed and officially presented in national workshops. The identification of sites for concessions and potential concessionaires are still ongoing with site visits.

The MIARO partners have continued to develop forest carbon projects and the carbon financing on several levels. MIARO participated in a REDD workshop that was organized to widen the discussion about the potential of REDD projects in Madagascar. At the site level important progress has been made at Makira with the signing of an agreement between WCS and the GoM that provides WCS with a long-term mandate to sell carbon emission reductions generated by the protected area. For CAZ, CI facilitated the signing of a contract between the GoM and the Biocarbon fund for \$1.5 million that provides an important revenue source for the protected area for the next several years. CI also continues to provide technical support and funding for the Mantadia habitat restoration project that MIARO has supported and for which the GoM has also signed an agreement with the BioCarbon Fund for approximately \$800,000 that will provide long term funding for the restoration activities beyond the end of EP3. MIARO has also made good progress toward developing a carbon project for COFAV and potential buyers have been identified. On another front, WWF, in partnership with Good Planet, has been able to leverage \$5 million for forest conservation activities in Madagascar as part of Air France's corporate responsibility strategy for offsetting carbon emissions.

As the MIARO project enters its last stage there is progress being made on all fronts with regards SAPM. The last 6 months will be focused on strengthening the ongoing work to ensure that the progress to date is consolidated and that the foundation for the SAPM is secured, ready to enter into a new phase of active management of the country's newly created protected areas.

II. PROJECT ACTIVITIES

ACTIVITIES LINKED WITH RESULT MODULES

Result Module 1: Ecological linkages established and maintained

SUB RESULTS MODULE: 1.1. Promote the definition of policy and legal parameters for the establishment of new protected areas

a. SAPM Policy documents/tools

MIARO has continued to ensure that previously developed policy documents that have been developed with the SAPM commission are distributed to promoters of protected areas and other stakeholders who need them. These documents include: i. a general guidance document on the categories and types of governance possible within the SAPM, ii. a guide for the establishment of new protected areas, iii. a

guide for conducting environmental and social impact assessment, iv. a guide for land use planning v. guidelines for ensuring social safeguards during protected area creation.

In addition to the existing policy documents MIARO supported the development of three important new policy documents during the reporting period:

Guide to sustainable use of natural resources: One of the three main stated objectives of SAPM is to promote the sustainable use of natural resources to provide direct benefits to local communities managing protected areas. Sustainable use of renewable natural resources includes use for traditional subsistence (forest and marine species), research, and tourism.

MIARO provided support to DSAP, through a consultant, to develop a guide on natural resource use within protected areas. The guide includes basic principles for use, criteria for use, indicators of use, general guidelines regarding types of use, guidelines for protected area categories V and VI, and guidelines for the sustainable use and management plan for protected areas.

The guide was validated by the SAPM Commission in March 2008. However, the focus of this guide relates more to legal issues than to technical issues. Additional work is therefore needed to complete the technical aspects of the guide, specifically as regards to determining the use threshold in protected areas.

Safeguards policy: MIARO supported partners to participate in a training on the World Bank's safeguards policy from April 2-16, 2008. Training was provided by a World Bank consultant and topics included involuntary displacement, indigenous people, and public participation. Participants included ANGAP (Mikea and Sahamalaza), new protected area promoters (e.g. from CAZ, COFAV, Fanamby, WCS, WWF, MBG, Birdlife/Asity), and heads of service from DSAP.

The training included practical field work in COFAV, where the consultant was able to attend the participatory planning meetings at Marimiandra (Ikongo) so as to understand the approach being used to determine protected area limits and rules. A field visit was also made to the proposed Mikea National park north of Toliara.

One of the key results of this training was the confirmation, by the World Bank's expert, that in the case of Madagascar, the existing step (and legal requirement) of developing a Social and Environmental Management Plan is the same as the "Safeguards plan" required by the World Bank. The Social and Environmental Impact Assessment (EIES) and the safeguards policy are two integrated processes; the safeguard policy is not an additional obligation. Nevertheless, sites which receive World Bank funding will need to provide a document to the bank that satisfies their own criteria for a "safeguards plan".

The Social and Environmental Management Plan (PGES) for protected areas should include information on the following:

- People affected by the project
- General description of the protected area
- Indigenous people affected by the project
- Involuntary displacement, including restrictions in access to natural resources

The World Bank consultant who conducted the training is in the process of drafting a guide to facilitate the development of the Social Safeguard Plan required by the World Bank.

Under the restructuring of the World Bank's project to support EP3, they plan to support protected area creation in 6 ANGAP-managed protected areas and at COFAV. In addition, CAZ will receive

revenues from the sale of carbon emissions reductions to the BioCarbon fund, which is managed by the Bank and therefore subject to their Safeguards policy.

Manual on the creation of terrestrial protected areas: The DSAP hired a consultant with IDA/GEF funds to update the existing guide on the creation of terrestrial protected areas and to transform it into an official procedures manual. This document is intended to ensure that standardized procedures are followed for the creation process. MIARO provided extensive documentation and comments to the consultant to finalize the document and the manual was validated by the SAPM Commission in May 2008.

b. Legal Aspects

The development of the SAPM since Durban in 2003 has been the result of extensive discussions between the MEEFT, technical and financial partners, local stakeholders in the areas concerned and it has been enriched with examples of best practice from around the world. The result is a relatively complex system made up of a suite of protected area categories, determined by their management objectives, and governance types. Although the COAP was developed specifically with the ANGAP network in mind and only defines three protected area categories, it did leave open the possibility for new types of protected areas and governance to be developed. Hence it has been possible to advance with the creation of the SAPM and new protected areas with the addition of an application Decree (No. 2005-848, which operationalizes articles 2, 4, 17, 20, and 28 of the Protected Areas Code - COAP). However, now that the SAPM framework is much clearer, the COAP needs to be updated to more specifically reflect the policies that the MEEFT has developed and to eliminate the grey areas that allow for various interpretations and complicate field-level activities and negotiations.

MIARO has provided legal assistance to assist the Ministry of Environment, Water, Forests, and Tourism's team to amend the COAP. Key points to be integrated into this amendment include the following:

- New categories and governance types
- Sustainable use of natural resources
- Zoning
- the place of the existing network of protected areas, run by PNM-ANGAP, within the SAPM
- Marine and coastal protected areas
- Protected areas and extractive industries
- Penal implications
- Coherence between the COAP and forestry law

An initial stakeholder workshop was held May 13-14, 2008 to discuss the amendment to the COAP and specifically to receive input on the points to address. Further consultation with stakeholders will be required both at the national and subnational levels and in particular with other sectors. In addition there are several other relevant pieces of legislation that are currently undergoing revision or amendment and so the COAP needs to be developed in parallel with this process. Examples include the law on the private property of the State, the public domain, the maritime code, and the oil/gas code;

Next steps include the following:

- Updating the text following the workshop
- Consultation of various stakeholders such as: Land Use Planning, Transport, Justice, Defense, Ministry of Agriculture, Commission Environnement-Peche, Ministry of Energy and Mines, ANDEA, CT
- Develop a detailed timeline to ensure the amendment is submitted in time for the parliamentary session of September 2008

Application decrees of the COAP: In addition to the proposal for the amendment to the COAP, an application decree is also needed. In the law, the primary focus will be on points listed above. The decree, however will detail the creation procedure, governance, integration of management transfers in protected areas, rules and criteria regarding sustainable use, the relationship between sustainable management of renewable and nonrenewable natural resources (e.g., mining, oil), etc. This new decree will supercede decree No. 2005-848 of the COAP. The new decree will be submitted to parliament along with the COAP amendment in September 2008.

Arrêté on the extension of temporary protected status: Temporary protected status arrêtés for protected areas created in 2005 and 2006 have expired. The DSAP is currently working to extend the expiration dates of these arrêtés. Sites with ministerial arrêtés will be separated from those with inter-ministerial arrêtés. Those sites that overlap with mining permits that were issued before 2004 will have their temporary protected status extended by 2 years. Those sites that do not overlap with mining permits will have their temporary protected status extended until such date as the definitive protected status is obtained.

Management delegation: The DSAP will issue a ministerial decision to name new protected area promoters. The decision will name the DREEFTs as the managers of new protected areas, and they are responsible for spearheading and coordinating the creation process. However, the day-to-day operational process for creation will be led by a promoter. This is the process that has been adopted until now for most of the new protected areas, however the DSAP intends to put the relationship on amore formal footing. Each promoter will have their rights and responsibilities will be laid out in a *cahier de charge*. A draft of the cahier de charge defining the terms of the collaboration between managers and technical and financial promoters is already complete and these agreements should be signed soon between the DSAP and the promoters.

Arrêté on the creation, organization, and operation of the SAPM Commission: The SAPM Commission was created to support the Direction Générale de l'Environnement, des Eaux et Forêts to extend the surface area under protection as stipulated in Commitment 7 of the MAP. The DSAP decided to formalize this Commission through a ministerial arrêté. The arrêté is still in development, but will include articles on the creation of the Commission, its mandate, its composition, its organization, and its operations.

c. Impact of climate change to the Biodiversity and Livelihoods in Madagascar

A three-day workshop **“Assessing the Impacts of Climate Change on Madagascar’s Biodiversity and Livelihoods”** was held in Antananarivo, Madagascar, from January 28 – 31, 2008. The workshop was organized by CI, WWF, USAID and the Government of Madagascar. It brought together 130 experts from more than 50 national, regional and international organizations across a wide spectrum of expertise. The workshop’s objective was to provide a forum for policy makers and experts from various disciplines – climate science, oceanography, marine and terrestrial ecology, conservation, and rural development – to examine the threats to marine and terrestrial biodiversity and livelihoods in Madagascar, and to generate recommendations for building resilience and adapting to the likely impacts of climate change. Of particular importance in the context of the MIARO program were recommendations related to priority setting for areas to protect because of their potential resilience, vulnerability or for the key ecosystem services that they provide. In addition, important recommendations were made related to ecological restoration in strategic areas where natural corridors need to be maintained or restored to provide the possibility for species to shift their ranges in adaptation to climate change.

d. REDD Workshop was held on April 1-3

At the UN climate change negotiations in Bali last December, the issue of 20% of global CO₂ emissions coming from the loss of tropical rainforests finally received the attention it deserves. Mobilizing revenues from carbon markets for Reducing Emissions from Deforestation and Degradation (REDD) is a major opportunity for tropical countries to address this pressing problem whilst advancing their rural development agendas. CI helped GTZ and the World Bank's BioCarbon Fund to organize a workshop on REDD on the 1st, 2nd and 3rd April. Staff from MIARO presented the two REDD pilot projects, approaches to modeling carbon offsets and mechanisms to ensure that global carbon benefits can be channeled to rural communities.

SUB RESULTS MODULE: 1.2. Identify and promote potential new protected areas in consultation with regional and local actors

a. Terrestrial priority setting for SAPM

Extraordinary progress has been made towards making the Durban Vision a reality. In less than 5 years, the MEEFT and its technical and financial partners, have identified, raised the necessary resources for, and negotiated with stakeholders to protect approximately 5.5 million hectares of prime biodiversity habitat. Much still needs to be done to ensure that provisional protection becomes definitive, that the creation process transitions into effective management, and that the human, technical and financial resources necessary for the system of protected areas are in place in perpetuity. Nevertheless, approximately 5.5 million hectares of an originally planned 6 million have been determined and will be protected. During the same period, science has not stood still: new species have been discovered, our knowledge of threatened species has been improved and taxonomies have changed based on new understandings of ecology, behavior and genetics. Ensuring that the SAPM protects a representative sample of the country's biodiversity requires regular updating of the priority setting to identify the remaining gaps in biodiversity coverage within the system.

A key deadline for identifying the final spatial configuration of the SAPM is October 18, 2008. On this date the inter-ministerial arrêté between the Ministry of Energy and Mines and the Ministry of Environment, Waters and Forests which provides temporary protection from logging and mining activities in the priority areas will expire. The priority setting group is therefore working on finalizing an updated version of the SAPM map, including priority areas, to use as the basis of negotiations and decisions about the remaining new protected areas to create.

In addition the contribution of data, analysis and staff time, MIARO is also providing technical assistance (Tom Allnutt) to the priority setting group. The group has adopted the following methodology to update the map:

- Manual refinement of the map:
 - ANGAP-managed protected areas with their extensions
 - Protected areas with temporary protected status
 - Protected areas proposed for 2008 (identified and delimited from information sent by promoters)
 - KBAs
 - Priority plant areas

In parallel to the manual refinement process, the MARXAN analysis will be redone. This process will allow us to identify the complementarity among the manual process, the MARXAN results, and the ZONATION output.

A workshop with national-level scientists and promoters was held in June to verify that all priority conservation areas appear on the map and to justify those areas appropriately. Regional-level discussions are planned to refine the map.

Final results of the priority setting activities will be distributed in an electronic format or Digital Conservation Atlas.

b. Workshop on the Program of Work for Protected Areas of the CBD

MIARO staff helped to organize a workshop on the Program of Work for Protected Areas of the CBD was held on April 28-30, 2008. Representatives of African States that are members of CBD such as Kenya, Malawi, Mauritius, Mozambique, Seychelles, and Zambia participated. The workshop focused on ecological gap analysis for protected areas systems, effectiveness evaluation for protected areas, and sustainable financing of protected areas. The case of Madagascar was used to illustrate the steps required for ecological gap analysis. Problems regarding prioritizing wetlands and marine/coastal areas were also discussed. The workshop costs were covered by The Nature Conservancy, WWF and CI.

c. Communication

Through CI's communications department, MIARO has put a huge emphasis on communication of SAPM activities during this reporting period using media including TV, radio, newspaper articles, environmental events (World Days/International Days), meetings/conferences and printed materials. One of the most important and successful approaches has been the provision of trainings, information and facilitation of contact between journalists and protected area promoters. This has resulted in the almost daily articles on new protected areas and related environmental issues that are currently in the printed press.

Several films were locally produced to explain the protected area creation process and the involvement by local communities in planning and management:

- A 26-minute film was produced in Malagasy that explains the SAPM process. It is illustrated with footage that was taken during public consultations in Antenina in the CAZ. The film has been used for public meetings during public consultations, broadcast by TVM and shown during World Environment Day in Moramanga, Fianarantsoa, and Antananarivo.
- An education tour for journalists to Ialamarina in COFAV resulted in a 13-minute film produced by MBS, a national television station, in addition to 3 newspaper articles in national papers (*Midi*, *Taratra*, *le Quotidien*) and an online news site (*Aody.mg*).
- A collaboration with the popular "Preuve par six" television show resulted in six 6-minute news reports on new protected areas, each of which was shown multiple times. The show is a competition between teams of young journalists whom each cover a story. MIARO provided stories, background information and worked with partners to facilitate the logistics for the 6 teams. The six protected areas that were covered were Mahavavy-Kinkony, Daraina, Andranovato (COFAV), Menabe, restoration activities linking forest fragments within the CAZ, and Anjozorobe. Each report focused on the benefits of protected areas to the local community.

A concise document and map presenting the SAPM and the progress made towards making it a reality was produced for the distribution at the Convention on Biological Diversity meeting in Bonn. The document was also used for distribution to participants at the MAP meeting organized by the presidency on June 9-10.

MIARO organized World Environment Day (June 5) activities in Toamasina, Moramanaga, Fianarantsoa, Antananarivo and prepared communications materials for use at the World Environment Day celebrations organized in Antsiranana, Port Bergé and Nosivolo. The theme of WED was climate change and a training session and relevant background information and references were provided to journalists to improve the quality of the reporting. MIARO also organized the International Biodiversity Day celebrations (May 14) in Toamasina.

d. Refine marine conservation priority sites based on new species distribution data

In addition to the terrestrial priority setting, a similar exercise is needed for marine protected area planning. As a key first step, MIARO hired a local STTA (Faratiana Ratsifandrihamanana) to build up the database on marine species distribution. Fara is working on managing and updating existing data including the database of Pierre Vasseur on reef fishes. As a complement to the work supported by MIARO, the REBIOMA project has recently recruited a database manager whose responsibility will be the coordination of data collection and to lead the analysis of marine conservation site prioritization.

e. Support the elaboration of the “Document d’orientation” for marine and coastal PA

In April 2008 MIARO contracted STTA from Andrew Cooke and the bureau d’étude Resolve to draft the ‘Document d’Orientation pour la création et la gestion des Aires Marines Protégées à Madagascar’ and the ‘Manuel de Procédure pour la création et la gestion des Aires Marines Protégées à Madagascar’. This work is a continuation of the efforts of Dr. Charlotte De Fontaubert (STTA previously hired by MIARO) who had been working with the CEP to develop a national strategy for MPAs in Madagascar. The two documents are still in draft form, and are targeted for completion by the next session of parliament – to be held in September. This work is being carried out in close collaboration with the revision of the COAP as noted in section 1.1b.

SUB RESULTS MODULE: 1.3. Establish new protected areas (5 zones outside USAID priority zones)

a. Technical support to promoters

In addition to the general support and documentation provided to all promoters of new protected areas by the MIARO team, some specific technical assistance was provided for priority sites. The table below summarizes the status for sites that were supported.

Site	Status	Notes
Complexe Mangoky-Ihotry	The intention document of establishing the New Protected Area Complex Mangoky-Ihotry was submitted to the Directorate of Protected Areas System. A training session for the team in the field on various activities to be undertaken for the preparation of the final decree of creation took place in February 2008.	
Bongolava	The local consultations are outstanding in the new protected area “Corridor Forestier Bongolava.”	
Complexe Mahavavy Kinkony	The Environmental Impact Study and Social Council is underway. The platform is also entrain to collect additional	

	information at the level of communes and villages for the development of the Management Plan	
Complexe Ramena	The preparation for obtaining the arrêté of temporary protection is underway to Ambodivahibe and Orangea. The preparations for obtaining Decree of creation are underway for La Montagne d'Ambre.	
Nosy Tanikely	The draft arrêté is already available and waiting on that signature	
Ambalabe, Ibity et Ranobe PK32	Currently the team is in DSAP prepare the Temporary Protection Arrêté	The problems of mining inside these New Protected Areas were discussed with the CIMF.
FC Tsinjoarivo	<p>MIARO staff participated at a communication meeting organized in the Vakininkaratra region held in Antsirabe in the month of March 2008 to publicize its rich biodiversity and the threats that weigh, regional achievements in conservation.</p> <p>The various sustainable development activities underway were presented and a regional action plan was developed.</p>	<p>Most recently, Tsinjoarivo was identified as a priority site for the establishment of new protected area as a result of various biological research. The project SADABE led by Dr. Irwin Mitchell and his team alerted the urgency of setting protection of the site facing the pressures (irrational exploitation, fire, ..)</p> <p>In order to establish a plan of conservation activities at the site, it was considered useful to share information and communicate the achievements not only in and around Tsinjoarivo, but at the level of the entire Region. It was considered useful to bring all stakeholders up to the same level of information and to see how participatory regional perspectives for the Conservation of Biodiversity and environmental protection. This day of communication brought together regional authorities and local stakeholders to Tsinjoarivo, public services (MEEFT, Mine), and journalists.</p>
Bemanevika	The letters of commitment by stakeholders are already available. The inventory biological and socio-economic study are already made and the scientific workshop is planned for the month of June. The outline of the provisional boundaries are already available	<p>The <i>cabiers de charge</i> for the transfer of management to the three COBA are being finalized, ie that awaits approval by the DVRN (DGEEF).</p> <p>About squares mining, a small portion of Bemanevika overlaps with mining and we are waiting for confirmation at the Service des Mines through CIMF. However, TPF think assign this party</p>

		to facilitate the procedure. The simplified management plan is being developed
Manambolomaty	The document of creation initiative for the temporary protection is already with the DSAP. There is still updating the management scheme (ongoing) as the DSAP suggested.	For the overlay square mining, there is no problem but we are waiting for confirmation at the Service des Mines through CIMF.

b. Technical support to the newly established DSAP and commission SAPM

The DSAP was established in March and includes three Services:

- Service Etudes et Création
- Service Gestion et Appuis aux communautés
- Service Suivi Ecologique

The DSAP is charged with coordinating, guiding, and facilitating the SAPM establishment process in Madagascar. MIARO provides technical and financial support to the DSAP to implement its workplan.

Specific support has included the following:

- Consultants and technical assistance to develop management and monitoring tools
- Priority-setting support
- The COAP amendment
- Monitoring of SAPM progress
- Support for communication activities

MIARO also supports promoters during the new protected area creation process, updates the priority conservation sites map, and participates in meetings of the CIMF, CEP and of the SAPM Commission.

c. International exchange on community participation in protected area establishment and management with CI Andes team

An international exchange was organized in April 2008 in collaboration with the CI Andes program. Madagascar participants were selected based on the topics to be covered during the exchange, and included the DREEFT from Sofia, the head of the Service d'Ecotourisme at MEEFT, the MIARO coordinator for CAZ, and the Director of the Conservation Strategies Department at CI/Tana.

The purpose of this exchange was to reinforce knowledge and understanding of protected area management based on the experience of the Andes (Bolivia and Peru). Specifically, the exchange focused on local community participation in management and use of natural resources, community ecotourism, and legal and policy frameworks.

Madagascar participants are now members of CI's global network on protected area management. All documents and presentations from the exchange are available, and a presentation will be given for the MEEFT and USAID at a time to be agreed upon.

SUB RESULTS MODULE: 1.4. Refine conservation priorities in USAID priority eco-regions

a. Support the development of management plan for all PAs in USAID priority ecoregions

CORRIDOR ANKENIHENY ZAHAMENA

A participatory approach was adopted to develop the management plan and the safeguards plan for CAZ. However, the technical committee plays an important role in preparing these tools. The three DREEFT of the CAZ (Aloatra-Mangoro, Analanjrofo, and Atsinanana) are members of the technical committee. Subsequent to the consultations completed in 2007, the following activities have been implemented:

I. Analysis and consolidation of information collected during consultations

The teams implementing the consultations used the consultations guide with some adaptations given local specificities and realities. Results indicated that certain information was missing for some communes, which led to a modification in the methodology used. In general, we were able to define zoning at the communal level, community perception of land use, and ideas for future use of land and natural resources. Information gathered at the local level was compiled electronically, which provides a global vision of the CAZ in its entirety.

II. Reflection on developing management tools

The technical committee defined the management units of CAZ (elements required in the management plan) using a set of criteria. Much of the information needed is already available, but to expedite the process, we have hired consultants to assist with consolidating information and finalizing these management tools. Terms of reference for developing the management plan and the safeguards plan are complete but awaiting approval from the technical committee before the work begins. These management tools should be available by the end of October 2008.

b. Consultation and negotiation at the communal level

CORRIDOR ANKENIHENY ZAHAMENA

As mentioned above, consultations took place in the 20 communes of the CAZ in 2007. After compiling all the collected information, certain information gaps were identified for the following sites:

- Didy, Morarano, Ambohibary regarding management transfers and delimitation
- Ambohimanana regarding mining permits
- Anjahamana (Andranoharongana), Fito (Andasibe and Andranoharongana) regarding settlements inside the protected area
- Lakato and Beforona regarding the limits of the Ambalabe protected area proposed by MBG
- Ampasimpotsy, Ambalarondra, Ambodilazana and Sahambala

Two inter-communal workshops (Ambodilazana, Fetraomby) on forest control were organized by Jariala, ERI, and MIARO. These workshops will contribute to empowering local communities to control illegal harvest in and around the CAZ.

CORRIDOR FANDRIANA VONDROZO

MIARO activities in Fianarantsoa focused on creating the new protected area, COFAV, which primarily involved communal-level consultations. These consultations include various sub-activities:

- Information sharing on the evolution of COFAV during USAID Alliance meetings
- Developing and adapting the guide on the new protected area creation process (including local consultations) and providing training on the use of this guide to partners.
- Training on safeguard measures
- Creating maps for local consultations
- Collecting socio-economic and ecological data
- Holding local consultations at the communal level

c. Data collection

Field-level data collection is a crucial step before local consultations and informs the development of various protected area management documents. It provides a good understanding of the context. The consultations can then serve to validate collected data and / or identify information gaps.

d. Local consultations

Representatives of the fokontany, associations, NGOs, and local authorities participated in local consultations at the communal level. The main objective of the consultations is to ensure stakeholder appropriation of the COFAV creation process. After objectives and the process are communicated to all, participants are divided into small groups. Each group discusses the following points:

- Identifying resource use and/or settlements in areas to be part of the protected area;
- Refining protected area boundaries
- Refining the management vision for the protected area including zoning and management rules at the local level
- Identifying livelihood projects/ safeguard measures

Small group work is reported to all participants and synthesized. After validation, representatives of each entity sign the minutes of the meeting. Currently, consultations in 18 of 66 communes have been completed.

e. Conservation contracts

CI has developed and implemented conservation contracts in 5 pilot zones of the COFAV (and with another 5 communities at CAZ). The objective is to ensure local conservation action at the local level, empower local communities to do conservation, and to provide incentives for this work. These pilot activities are generating positive results and are likely to be one of the main mechanisms for engaging communities in conservation activities at the local management unit level of these protected areas.

FACILITATE THE ESTABLISHMENT OF TSITONGAMBARIKA NAP

Tsitongambarika: Documents needed to initiate the creation process for Tsitongambarika are complete and ready to be submitted to DSAP. The only missing piece is the certificate of the legal status from the *Service de la Topographie and the Service des Domaines*.

The Task Force identified the following key steps to obtain definitive protected status:

- Debrief of the regional approval for communal actors in June. During these meetings, we will provide maps to each commune and present the governance structure. Several members of the Task Force have expressed their willingness to participate technically/financially to complete this activity.
- The Jariala project will support activities related to management of production zones in TKG in May and June 2008. This support will define Fort Dauphin and surrounding areas' wood needs and the forest surface area required to respond to these needs. Based on information obtained,

we will recommend changes to the production zones in existing management transfers to ensure connectivity of the core protection zone of the protected area.

- Prepare a technical and financial proposal to be sent to USAID, Rio Tinto, and other financial partners.

Work continues on the establishment of the Tsitongambarika PA. Chloe Webster continues to serve as the WCS MIARO point person in the Ansoy region, as well as member of the TGK taskforce. Local actor organizational meetings continue to be held regularly, with Jennifer Talbot of QMM/BirdLife taking the organizational lead. In May of 2008, Jack Tordoff of BirdLife International traveled to Madagascar to hold organizational meetings at both the National and Local levels; the objectives of Jack's passage were to (i) outline next steps, roles and responsibilities among partner organizations, (ii) begin drafting the full proposal to the EU for funding to establish the TGK PA.. Birdlife International and MIARO continue to provide technical assistance while Asity is the protected area promoter.

SUPPORT TO AMBATOTSIRONGORONGO PA

PA Management Plan – The draft final version of the Ambatotsirongorongo PA environmental impact assessment has been validated by the partner organizations of the PA steering committee - DREEFT Anosy, Service des Mines, 4 Mayors, ONE Anosy, QMM, Comité de gestion). The Environmental Impact Assessment has been sent to the O.N.E. for final validation.

Building the capacity of the Management Committee (COGE) Members and development of an annual work plan – An evaluation of the COGE 2007 PTA, and achievements realized was carried out. Only 30% of planned activities were realized; reported limitations and reasons for subpar COGE performance centered on a general lack of motivation on the part of the COGE president and limited available funds. To address this limited functionality of the COGE, a permanent facilitator was hired to work with the COGE on management of the PTA. This facilitator will work with the COGE on development of a practical and achievable PTA for 2008. There is also consideration of removing the current COGE president and electing a new president. Development of a 'cahier de charge' for the utilization of PA ZUCs and ZOCs has also been realized.

Forest restoration – Work has focused on monitoring the established tree nurseries. The establishment of these community managed tree nurseries is the first step in initiating a 5 year forest restoration program that aims to restore over 300 ha of forest in the critical corridors between the principal forest blocks of Ambatotsirongorongo, Ambohisampa, and Lavasoa. Restoration will be on the order of 60 ha per year and include the planting of 60,000 saplings. While originally planned to cultivate 70,000 seedlings for restoration, the village managed nurseries has succeeded in cultivating 150,000 seedlings. The identified sites for restoration have been visited, community teams have been established, and first planting will begin in June 2008. The program continues to be based on a 5 year restoration effort, with significant in-kind support from the UK-based organization RestoreUK

Additional outreach and community support – Efforts continue to work with local partner organizations in the development of additional outreach activities to further support the communities engaged in management of the PA. Activities include: trainings on improved agricultural practices, alternative income generating opportunities, improved health and livelihood activities including family planning and AIDs awareness, identifying and securing funds for necessary community infrastructure improvements. Support to the COGE in their efforts to secure seedlings for restoration and reforestation programs has also been provided through JARIALA/ DREEFT and SNGF.

DEVELOPMENT OF APPROPRIATE MANAGEMENT STRUCTURES: CAZ, COFAV, ET TGK

Working sessions on the potential governance structures of CAZ and COFAV were held. Discussions tended toward a co-management structure with a co-management committee made up of management units, a direction committee, and an orientation entity. Given the complexity of the situation at both corridors, consultants will be hired to develop scenarios regarding governance structures. The consultant(s) will work hand-in-hand with the technical committees.

Tsitongambarika: The management structure has been identified, which is co-management comprised of three committees:

- *Le comité de Pilotage (COP)*
- *Le comité d'Orientation et Suivi (COS), and*
- *Le comité de Coordination pour la Gestion de la forêt de Tsitongambarika. (KOMFITA)*
- For local-level management, an autonomous management structure at each commune will be integrated into the Voamieran'ny tontolo iainina (Environment Group) as part of the existing Communal Development Committees (*Comité Communal de Développement CCD*)

Terms of reference for the 3 committees have been completed, as well as an organizational chart for the overall management structure.

SUB RESULTS MODULE: 1.5. Develop forest restoration functions and procedures in USAID priority eco-regions

a. Development of an action plan for reforestation in the Antongil bay (Masoala/Makira) landscape based on 10 years of experience in Masoala.

During March 2008 international consultant Louise Holloway was contracted to carryout an evaluation of restoration efforts in the Makira-Masoala landscape. Louise has vast experience in the area of community forest resource management, and has been working on and off in the Antongil Bay region for over 10 years in addition to her support to the community forestry activities at Andasibe. The objectives of Louise's consultancy were to (i) to evaluate the activities of Masoala National Park corridor restoration and protection efforts ten years after they were started; (ii) to extract technical lessons that can be replicated in other prioritized forest corridor sites; and (iii) to develop/update a framework for prioritizing critical forest corridor sites in the Masoala/Makira landscape and propose measures to restore/maintain these corridors.

b. Mantadia Forest Restoration project: Sustainable Livelihood Activities (SLAs)

During the later half of 2008, CI hired an international consultant to help re-stimulate the Sustainable Livelihood Activities (SLAs) of TAMS, mainly in implementing SLAs which had previously been designed by Louise Holloway, with MIARO support. The consultant also worked with communities to help them target existing sources of funding. As a result, the activity proposal submitted to the nodes small grants by four kolo harena of Andranolava village was approved and is currently being implemented under the monitoring of the newly recruited SLA team.

CI has provided a grant to ANAE to coordinate the SLA activities at Andasibe in collaboration with the 7 local implementing associations. In addition to the original SLAs, ANAE is testing the feasibility of the zero-tiling technique often called SCV in the TAMS zone. Recently, the first harvest of rice and corn produced with these new techniques was promising compared to the tavy yield on the same type of land. Furthermore, there seemed to be improvement in soil structure and an increase in the organic matter in the soil.

To complement the original SLA design, CI provided technical support to CIPALI and ANAE to write a proposal for the Development Marketplace grant program. The proposal was to establish wild silk

production in the Mantadia-Zahamena corridor area to complement other Sustainable Livelihood Activities in areas around the forest corridor restoration zone. The project will increase the value of forests to communities and will enhance the restoration efforts through the inclusion of native tree species that serve as food for the pupae. It is also aimed at providing sustainable revenue for the communities involved in TAMS. The wild silk project has just been short-listed by the World Bank.

Result Module 2: Management effectiveness for conservation areas improved

MIARO RM2 has provided major assistance to new protected areas (NPAs) of the SAPM. The RM2 team has expanded its support to NPAs in northern Madagascar. However, strengthening towards NPAs that have advanced drafts of management plans has been also a major activity for the first semester.

SUB RESULTS MODULE: 2.1. Develop and/or refine conservation management plans and other thematic plans for protected areas AND

a. Management plans for new protected areas (NPAs)

RM2 supported a capacity building workshop on management effectiveness and management effectiveness assessment tools for DSAP staff as well as PA promoters. This workshop is part of a series of workshops organized under the Program of Work on Protected Areas of the Convention on Biological Diversity in order to foster the implementation of this program. This provided a good exposure to management effectiveness issues and standards, the most up-to-date version of The Nature Conservancy's Conservation Action Planning tool (formerly 5-S) and other tools now available for the SAPM. The need to develop a master plan for the SAPM (as ANGAP's PLANGRAP) was raised and discussed with the DSAP as being key for the future long-term foundation of the SAPM, as well as the need to adapt the management effectiveness assessment methodology now used by ANGAP to the whole SAPM.

The RM2 team has so far provided assistance to Menabe-Antimena, Ranobe, Ankodida, Ifotaka-Nord and the three NPAs in Diana, Oranjia, Montagne des Français and Ambodivahibe which is a coastal (littoral dry forest) and marine protected area. New software called Miradi is currently being used (see also next section on this).

There has been a progressive and interesting evolution in methodology in how the NPAs issues are addressed. Beginning with Menabe-Antimena, essentially all stakeholders were involved at the initial analyses stages, but this narrowed to scientific and technical expertise only when we moved into 5-S. The final document is shaping up very well and the Fanamby/Durrell team is in the phase of incorporating last missing information on the "transfert de gestion" scheme. A final workshop aiming to mold the final version is scheduled in July.

Then, this experience was used to develop the Ifotaka-Nord and Ankodida plans, and a mechanism was set in place by local WWF staff to discuss the results and proposals regularly with the region and local communities.

For the new northern sites, SAGE and CI have helped to establish three commissions: (i) biodiversity and threats, (ii) social, economic and cultural (SEC), and (iii) management and governance. An important work has been done on analyses for during two missions (the first was orientation and explanations), and the analyses seem to be essentially complete. All three commissions meet and share ideas at least once on every mission.

The Region has been present for most of our analyses and at least two of the focal NPAs face a serious charcoal problem and all recognize that only a regional initiative could solve this issue. In addition, several commune mayors in the North joined our team periodically and asked for similar support from us for additional sites that are sacred, in good shape and biologically significant. These requests were unsolicited and at least one mayor got DREEFT endorsement. This seems to us (we discussed it regularly) an excellent opportunity to have MIARO help Diana develop a regional vision for biodiversity that could be integrated into its MAP. For each of the three commissions, a person that will write down all the analysis processes has been identified. They will then submit their writings to a PA expert consultant that was hired specially to consolidate all the appropriate information needed for the drafting of the document. Dealing with the analysis per se, the biodiversity commission has finished elaborating the conceptual model for the Montagne des Francais PA and has initiated the threat ranking process. The commission will issue a memo that will highlight the implication of the social economic and cultural problematic in the deterioration of the conservation targets. This paper is very helpful in providing the SEC commission with bridging elements it will ground its in-depth analysis on. In this way, the two commissions will not drift away each other in their approaches.

It is noted that thanks to the inclusive visions of all of the NPAs teams, the management plans that are emerging at present are also very inclusive and capture, the spirit of grassroots participation and co-management. To that end, the management plan design can still be improved.

b. Miradi: Adaptive Management Software for Conservation Projects

RM2 team is introducing new software called Miradi that gives essentially the same results as the 5-S approaches but is much simpler to use. WWF acquired the license for using it and can transfer, through the license rules, the rights to use it to all partners.

Currently, Miradi is a user-friendly program that allows nature conservation practitioners to design, manage, monitor, and learn from their projects to more effectively meet their conservation goals. The program guides users through a series of step-by-step interview wizards, based on the Open Standards for the Practice of Conservation. As practitioners go through these steps, Miradi helps them to define their project scope, and design conceptual models and spatial maps of their project site. The software helps teams to prioritize threats, develop objectives and actions, and select monitoring indicators to assess the effectiveness of their strategies. Miradi also supports the development of workplans, budgets, and other tools to help practitioners implement and manage their project. Users can export Miradi project data to donor reports or, in the future, to a central database to share their information with other practitioners. The main difference between 5-S and Miradi resides in (i) their user interface and (ii) their flexibilities.

As mentioned above, Miradi has a more accessible and comprehensible interface compared to 5-S which was easily elitist in its design and approach. Moreover, Miradi offers some options that were absent in 5-S. As an example, the viability analysis can be carried out in two ways, with ecological attribute or in the simple mode. This is a tremendous progress as for many protected areas in Madagascar, precise and appropriate data are often lacking so it is not worth applying a rigorous methods like the ecological attribute mode in all cases.

c. PNM-ANGAP sites and World Heritage Sites

Support has been given to the Ministry of Environment, Water and Forests, and Tourism and PNM-ANGAP to develop the Integrated Management Plan for the Ala Atsinanana World Heritage Sites. During June, the process of updating the conservation target, threats and strategic priorities for Andohahela national park was completed. The same process will be adopted at the other 4 parks in the World Heritage cluster. The Interregional Direction of PNM-ANGAP in Toliara very recently also

solicited support for the Mikea Protected Area Management Plan and MIARO RM2 certainly will comply.

d. Governance and sustainability

This section is linked to RM1. It is interesting to notice that the issues of sustainability are not limited on sustained financing. Everyone starts to recognize that governance and political/social buy-in is equally critical to sustainability. All of the NPAs that MIARO is supporting are developing similar governance models, even if these are only an early step in a more consolidated structure in the future. Governance and management equal responsibility which results in leveraging financing.

PNM-ANGAP and WWF, in southwest Madagascar have grouped together NGO and community representatives from 14 evolving protected areas programs in order to exchange information and experiences. A meeting of those on-the-ground practitioners took place last year and it is hoped that such meeting is organized annually. The objective of such meetings is to provide a platform for co-management practitioners to share experience and provide training on specific governance aspects.

All stakeholders are all much more wise and experienced in these issues than last year, thanks to progress in the NPAs themselves. The governance models for each NAP now needs to be adjusted to the conservation management plans so as to ensure that the governance structure is adequate to reach the conservation targets and goals stated for each NAP. The Ankodida protected area could provide a very good pilot for such an exercise, with its PGC being virtually completed and strong involvement of all governance stakeholders.

e. Develop environmental education toolkits for use by PA management and teachers in park peripheries

Efforts thus far have centered on development of a national environmental education strategy that promotes the SAPM, and the production and distribution of teaching aid materials to be used by regional education authorities, teachers, and environmental clubs in the peripheral zones of APs and NAPs. Toward this end, WCS engaged Tali Klien as an STTA to assist in the development of these materials.

Toward defining and developing a national strategy for environmental education, a national workshop was held on April 9 at OLEP with the direct collaboration of the Direction du Développement du Reflexe Environnementale du MEEF and the Bureau Programme Education Environnementale du MENRS. The objective of the workshop were to (i) identify the environmental education resources already available from and used by partner organizations resources, (ii) identify the strengths and weaknesses of these various materials, (iii) make these materials available in a more standardized forum, (iv) identify areas in need of improvement or areas where there is currently a lack of material/information. The workshop included 32 participants from 22 organizations. Participating organizations, associations and/or institutions included MEEFT, MENRS, ONE, ANGAP, GTZ, ARPEGE, PBZT, WWF, CCEE, MBG, Madagascar Voakajy, CAS, GERP, Programme ANKOY, TANY MEVA, CI, WCS, REPC, UNESCO, WORLD BANK, and USAID. As a result of this workshop, the participating ministries MEEFT and MENRS stated their intent to create a National Committee on the Relative education to the environment CNERE that will facilitate the exchange of information in the area of environmental education.

Teaching aid materials improved and or developed during this reporting period include:

Material	Content	Objective
Posters on water cycle, Carbon cycle, and food chain	Update and improve upon materials produced by WWF throughout the series 'Ny Voary'	Demonstrate the interdependence between ecological and human systems, and improve general knowledge in the areas of environment, ecological systems, and human activities.
Botanical flip charts	A flip chart book that provided information to schools and clubs on the floral diversity unique to Madagascar. The book will select 20 representative species	Improve the understanding of Madagascar's unique floral diversity
Nature guides	Various guides that can be used by teachers and environmental clubs to organize and carry out nature visits – outdoor lab experience. Les encadreurs de clubs et enseignants seront les bénéficiaires. Le contenu décrira ce qu'il faut faire avant, pendant et après la visite nature.	Promote increased outdoor labs as an educational tool for teachers and increase awareness of Madagascar's SAPM

Environmental education activities that focused specifically in the Anosy region included:

- The creation of and support to 4 environmental youth clubs in the peripheral zone of Ambatotsirongorongo AP - l'EPP Mitriaky, EPP Sarisambo, EPP Ankaramena et CEG de Ranopiso. The clubs focused on primary and secondary school students and method of establishment and support follow from the experiences of youth club establishment in the Antongil Bay region where there are now over 15 established youth clubs.
- Support to schools toward better integration of environmental education modules in class curriculum. Efforts included development of education modules focused specifically on conservation themes, holding environmental themed contest, education outreach on improved nutrition and human hygiene, establishment of school nurseries, establishment of school gardens, realizing nature visits with primary and secondary school students – through the youth club system.
- An environmental education program planning workshop was held during May 5-12. The workshop served to (i) introduce planned activities for this calendar year to local partner organizations and community authorities ; (ii) mobilize schools toward the creation of environmental clubs ; (iii) initiate a program of environmentally themed contests among the schools, (iv) inform the community and school authorities of the recruitment of a permanent animateur for Ambatotsirongorongo.
- Following from this planning workshop, each school and club was asked to produce a program of work for the next school year. The POWs will be focused on restoration efforts, tree nursery establishment and community gardens. For Ankaramena et Manisy 04 ha of community land will be targeted for restoration – with assistance from QMM and DREEFT – with efforts beginning in June. The EPP of Anena and Sarisambo will develop community gardens. Three (3) courses on biodiversity are planned for incorporation into the curriculums of EPP Sarisambo, EPP Anena, EPP Ankaramena, EPP Midriso, EPP Manisy and CEG

Ranopiso. The developed themes will focus on general environmental issues, flora and fauna of Ambatotsirongorongo and forest conservation.

f. Develop a marine ecological monitoring technical framework for ANGAP

During March 2008, Bemahafaly Randriamanantsoa, WCS Marine conservation coordinator, and Herilala Randriamahazo, WCS Marine Program director, undertook diver certification training in Mombasa Kenya with a view to initiate a MPA ecological monitoring training program in the second semester of this year.

Field-based team development and training will take place during the second semester of 2008.

g. Continue to develop adaptive ecological monitoring practices for PAs and NPAs including integrated community-based ecological monitoring

Community-based ecological monitoring programs have been developed and integrated into the local management activities at several of the new protected areas within SAPM. In addition to the well established systems developed at Aloatra, menabe and Baie de Baly, these monitoring activities have now been established by CI in CAZ and COFAV, and MIARO, through WCS, is supporting their establishment in Ambatotsirongorongo. Community monitoring, along with patrol activities and habitat restoration are emerging as one of the best ways of engaging communities in conservation activities within the SAPM.

In follow up to realized field-based training in ecological monitoring, protocols that were introduced in the Ambatotsirongorongo PA trainings are being translated from English and French into Malagasy. The process of translation was initiated in April and is still ongoing. The translated protocols will serve as a guide for continued community-based ecological monitoring.

SUB RESULTS MODULE: 2.2. Improve and fully implement annual programmatic work plans for protected areas

a. Develop training modules for PA managers in collaboration with REPC project following the training needs identified by PNM-ANGAP in 2006

REPC, in collaboration with MIARO continued development of training modules for PA and NPA managers. Two modules initiated in 2007 are being finalized.

REPC and DGEEF are identifying two more modules to develop. A survey done in April showed the importance of the following modules for DGEEF: (1) Aires Protégées: planning and design; (2) Aires Protégées: implémentation et gestion. The priority modules will be determined at the REPC/DGEEF training of Trainers planned in Moramanga from July 1, 2008 to July 4, 2008.

Free printed and electronic versions of modules already produced were disseminated to partners in Antsiranana, Mahajanga, and Maroantsetra in May 2008. REPC in collaboration with WCS also continued the improvement of training programs in biodiversity conservation within DGEEF. To this end, since January 2008, REPC has already organised several meeting with DGEEFT in order to develop partnership. As a result, DGEEF, the General Secretary of the ministry of the environment and REPC agree that REPC will support DGEEF in implementing MEEFT training plan published in January 2008. REPC will take especially in charge the training on biodiversity conservation. REPC has already identified 15 trainers from DGEEF to be in charge of DREEF training. Occurring from July 1 to July 4 2008, the training plan will be updated to integrate new needs according to the new structure

and the attribution of each department of DGEEF. At the same time REPC will train DGEEF trainers on Active Training approaches and will finalise training implementation plan.

b. Assist DGEEF / DSAP in developing evaluation system for SAPM

There is a growing concern amongst protected area professionals that many Protected Areas around the world are not achieving the objectives for which they are established. For this reason, the WCPA framework aims to provide some overall guidance in the development of assessment systems to encourage standards for assessment reporting. The Management Effectiveness Tracking tool (or IEG: Indice d'Effacité de Gestion) forms a part of a series of management effectiveness assessment tools, as the RAPPAM (WWF) used to identify key protected areas of threat.

For the SAPM, the system is composed by sites managed by ANGAP (definitive status) and new protected Areas. ANGAP already applies this assessment tool for its protected areas, and now there is a need to use the same system for the others new protected areas. It should be noted that the IEG is one of the official MAP indicators and therefore this system is required throughout the SAPM.

To adapt the IEG for use in the new Protected Areas we tested its application even though most new protected areas do not yet have the final protection status. The tool was tested on six new protected areas (*Menabe central, Ankenihena- Zahamena, Bongolava, Corridor Fandriana Vondrozo, Montagne des Francais, Mahavavy- Kinkony*).

The results are mentioned in the table above.

Sites	IEG Results for each PA
Ankeniheny-Zahamena	34.78
Menabe Central	31.18
Bongolava	25.00
Corridor Fandriana- Vondrozo	31.52
Montagne des Francais	23.91
Mahavavy-Kinkony	32.61

Table 1: Results of IEG for the training sites

The results show that the tool can be applied even without waiting for full protection. Therefore the next step is for this assessment to train the DSAP in its use as well as the operators of each new protected area. Then a strategy for regular annual monitoring needs to be developed with DSAP. This work will be conducted in the second semester of 2008.

Result Module 4: Sustainable Financing Mechanisms Mobilized and Operational

SUB RESULTS MODULE: 4.1. Expand and develop management capacity of Malagasy Environmental Trust Funds/Foundations

4.1.1 LONG-TERM SUPPORT AND TECHNICAL ASSISTANCE TO TANY MEVA FOUNDATION FOR INSTITUTIONAL DEVELOPMENT, STRATEGIC PLANNING, AND DEVELOPMENT OF NEW SUSTAINABLE FINANCIAL MECHANISMS

For the period under consideration, the MIARO contribution continued to focus on the increase of Tany Meva resources such as money, skills, information and networking. A consultant was hired by

Tany Meva – under the recommendation of the newly formed Tany Meva board – to assist in the drafting of a new 5 year strategic plan for the foundation. This work is on going.

Results achieved during this period are the following:

a. Assist new board as required to support its operations and ensure that effective governance structure is in place. Provide training and assistance as needed

During the last calendar year, the Tany Meva Board was presented with a draft investment strategy that updates the current approach, which is not delivering optimum returns. The strategy outlined moves the Board should consider to improve the returns on Tany Meva's capital and protect it against erosion of value. Draft terms of reference were written to permit the contracting of a management firm to review Tany Meva's current structure and operations and recommend structural changes and develop manuals consistent with the new operational thrust. This consultant has now been hired – with the support of MIARO. The program of work of this consultant is on going.

b. Provide training and orientation to ecosystem service markets, especially the emerging market for voluntary emission reductions.

With the support of MIARO, Tany Meva hosted a forest carbon workshop during May 13-21 with the UK-based organization Bioclimate Research and Development (BRD) and their program 'Plan Vivo'. Plan Vivo offers a methodology for developing community-centric forest carbon projects as well as access to markets and buyers. Given the Plan Vivo structure and potential for capacity building, development of a Plan Vivo project may be a useful approach for Tany Meva as part of its sustainable financing portfolio. The program would fit well with the current reforestation thrusts of the organization and take advantage of Tany Meva's status as a trust fund.

Through Plan Vivo, companies, individuals or institutions wishing to offset greenhouse gas emissions can purchase voluntary emission reductions (VERs) via the project trust fund – in this case established through Tany Meva – of the offset project. These VERs are in the form of Plan Vivo Certificates. The project uses the Plan Vivo management system to register and monitor carbon sequestration activities implemented by farmers. Local promoters help farmers to draw up their own work plans, known as Planes Vivos ~ for forestry or agroforestry systems that reflect their own needs, priorities and capabilities. These are assessed for technical feasibility, social and environmental impact and carbon sequestration potential. Viable plans are registered with the Trust Fund and an agreement for the supply of carbon services via the Fund is signed. The Trust Fund then provides farmers with financial and technical assistance to implement farm or community-scale forestry and agroforestry developments, on the basis of the carbon that will be sequestered. While any activity that can produce quantifiable reductions in green house gas emissions and promote sustainable livelihoods can be used in a Plan Vivo project. However, the focus of the Tany Meva program of work with Plan Vivo focused on restoration and reforestation efforts

The Tany Meva-led workshop included participants from 13 local partner organizations and associations: Feno Ala – Analamanga, ONG RINDRA - Alaotra Mangoro, ONG Capricorne – Atsimo Andrefana, ONG Baiboho – Atsimo Andrefana, Association Fiombonantsoa Mandroso – Analamanga, Association Fiombonantsoa Mandroso – Analamanga, Commune Rurale Ambongamarina – Analamanga, Association TAFITA Ankotrofotsy – Menabe, l'association LTF Mangarivotra – Menabe, Association FTV Antsoha – Menabe, Association Mahavelo – Atsimo Andrefana, Association Beahitse – Atsimo Andrefana, Association FITAMI - Alaotra Mangoro.

Follow up from this first workshop will come through the development of a portfolio of Plan Vivo projects that Tany Meva will submit to BRD for evaluation. Community-based Plan vivo project activities may begin as soon as this fall.

c. Provide additional support to enhance the quality of the Tany Meva website to bring it to an international standard

Technical assistance continues to be provided to Tany Meva for media materials and website development.

4.1.2. LONG-TERM SUPPORT AND TECHNICAL ASSISTANCE TO MADAGASCAR FOUNDATION FOR PROTECTED AREAS AND BIODIVERSITY (MFPAB) FOR INSTITUTIONAL DEVELOPMENT

The key results are:

- The Foundation has secured the approval and management of the debt relief agreement between the Government of France and Government of Madagascar, thus current commitments surpass the foundation's self-set goal of \$ 50 Million capital.
- Development of Draft Prioritization Plan pending finalization.
- Development of Draft Strategic Plan pending finalization.
- Development of Draft Communication Document pending finalization.

Finalization of a communication strategy depends largely on the Strategic Plan as well as the Prioritization criteria and will bolster the implementation of both. This is also an update of a prior communication plan (from 2005) that was launched for the initial years of the Foundation and is intended to lay the basis for the coming years. Based on the communication plan, communication and marketing priorities have been drafted through the end of the year 2008.

Develop Prioritization policy: Finalizing and implementing selection and prioritization of PAs for Foundation support.

MIARO provided technical assistance to the foundation to develop a framework that assess each protected areas, and based mainly on three criteria: (1) Biodiversity and viability (2) Management and governance (3) Labels. Following these three categories, an analysis was done for the protected areas of the SAPM that had already obtained final and temporary status. Through this analysis, we tried to classify separately the sites with final status (or managed by ANGAP) and the sites with temporary status.

For the Protected Areas with final status we used the three criteria whereas for the protected areas with temporary status, we only used the two criteria (biodiversity and viability, and Labels), because for the protected Areas in advanced stage of creation the data are not quite sure and this could bias our analysis.

It is important to note that the data we used for this evaluation comes from different sources as the Database of MIARO, IEFN data, Forest Cover, Key Biodiversity Areas, Important Birds Areas, ANGAP reports and surveys of operators working with new protected areas sites. However, for the New Protected areas there is a need to improve the data, as knowledge on species is increasing through more complete species inventories and better databases.

The results of this analysis provide the Foundation with a ranking system for their investments in protected areas.

SUB RESULTS MODULE: 4.2. Build on efforts made and cooperate with other EP3 actors to strengthen potential sources of income for forest habitat conservation

4.2.1. TECHNICAL SUPPORT TO THE WORKING GROUP ON SUSTAINABLE FINANCING – DEVELOPMENT OF A SUSTAINABLE FINANCE FRAMEWORK FOR THE DEVELOPMENT OF INITIATIVES FOR FINANCING FOREST CONSERVATION IN A RANGE OF PROTECTED AREAS AND IMPLEMENTATION OF ACTIVITY

The responsibilities of the Comité CDIFiDe have largely fallen to the new *Service de Pérennisation Financière* that is directly under the SG in MEEFT and is tasked with ensuring the financial sustainability of the environment as a whole and in particular Protected Areas.

The Chef de Service, Abdoul Cheikh Abdallah, Directeur des Etudes and Coordonnateur Général des Projets of the former Ministry of Tourism, has been appointed. Three highly motivated agents from the Department of Water and Forest and from the Ministry of Tourism have joined the team. MIARO has hired a technical assistant, Henri Rabesahala, to advise and accompany the SPF team in the implementation of the AAH approach to sustainable financing of environmental actions in Madagascar. The objectives of the team are twofold: to make sure the funding needs of the MAP's environment commitment are met and to increase the percentage of funding from sustainable financing instruments.

The immediate targets of SPF include the consolidation of all actions for the development of sustainable financing instrument, the identification of the costs and available funding of the MAP activities, and the development of a strategy to fill in the funding gap. Those constitute the next step of the unit.

The main challenges of this activity pertain to the setting up of the unit, including securing its budget, supplying equipments for the office and training the team. Besides, the limited access to the Minister and the Secretary General could sometime become an impediment to a fast decision making process. MIARO will continue to provide technical assistance as well as separate training for the SPF.

4.2.2. UNDERTAKE BIODIVERSITY ECONOMIC ANALYSES AND ORGANIZE FORUMS TO INCREASE UNDERSTANDING OF THE VALUE OF CONSERVATION IN MADAGASCAR

An analysis of ecosystem service values and the potential for developing ecosystem service payments was completed during 2007. The final report of these analyses has been submitted and is submitted in conjunction with this report.

WCS produced a short film on the value of Madagascar's natural capital and its contribution to the economic development of the country. The film was projected during the recently held 'Presidents Round Table' on private sector investment to the country. Two hundred copies of the film were also made available for distribution to all participants of the round table meetings.

The following are key achievements:

- A consulting team completed the field research in selected sites surrounding Fianarantsoa and the final reports are pending finalization.
- The consulting team included information relevant to the updating of the Matrix on PES activities in Madagascar.

- A second site, in the region near Toamasina, was identified for more in-depth studies related to implementing a PES mechanism. Terms of Reference have been drafted for a consultant to carry out the study and complete an assessment of the PES Matrix.

Undertake biodiversity economic analyses and organize forums to increase understanding of the value of conservation in Madagascar: PA-BAT assessment.

The Poverty Assessment-BAT is a new tool developed by WWF, Equilibrium and partners aiming to help collate information on the full range of current and potential benefits of individual protected areas. It is a contributory methodology for the overall Arguments for Protection series, but is also a stand-alone tool that will be of wider use to the protected areas community. The PA-BAT has been primarily designed for use by protected area managers to work with stakeholders to identify important values and the benefits that they bring to a range of stakeholders, from local to global.

The PA-BAT can also be used by local communities to identify values/benefits and by protected area advocates, such as NGOs, to help promote the range of benefits a protected area can bring.

We translated the questionnaire in French version so that it could be easily used by managers of protected areas. An Excel version is already available and ready to use and for dissemination for the assessment of each Protected Area. MIARO plans to provide training in the use of this tool so that it can be adopted in tandem with the IEG monitoring tool.

4.2.3. DEVELOPMENT OF CARBON RELATED PROJECTS FOR FOREST RESTORATION AND FOREST CONSERVATION

a. Makira

In preparation of selling verified emission reductions (VERs) from Makira, WCS continues to work with SmartWood of the Rainforest Alliance to complete the project design verification using Climate, Community and Biodiversity Standards (CCBS). A pre-evaluation of the Makira project has been completed by SmartWood, and field-based verification efforts will take place during the fall of 2008. MIARO is also negotiating with WinRock International to establish a VCS methodology for the GOM REDD efforts. WinRock will develop the VCS methodology through field work in the Makira, CAZ and COFAV. National trainings will be held, allowing for the establishment of a national team that, with the VCS, could carry out verification efforts as new REDD programs come on line.

In May, a landmark arrangement between the GOM and WCS that gives WCS – through the Makira Carbon Company – the authorization to market the an estimated 9.1 million tons of CO₂ equivalents (CO₂e). This agreement will result in at least 75% of all proceeds going to support conservation and community development in the Makira region. In addition the objective is to use funds to strengthen Government capability as well as the carbon financing capabilities of Tany Meva. WCS also has received significant interest from a variety of buyers in the marketing of Makira's CO₂e.

On another front, the Government granted CI the right to raise funds for the equivalent of 300,000 tons of CO₂e from Makira through 2010. It is agreed that CI will receive donations in exchange for the government retiring the credits. The donations, minus marketing, legal and management costs will be provided to WCS as a grant. While there have been delays in the signing of this contract, it is expected to be signed before the end of July, after final legal review.

b. Biocarbon Fund – Mantadia Zahamena

A Biocarbon Fund team visited the project stakeholders and activities in the field at TAMS last March and later met with various stakeholders at the decision making level in Antananarivo. The field visit allowed the team to learn about the complexity of the restoration techniques and the related approaches that need to meet the community, the donors and the CDM requirements. It also helped them to understand the high cost of ecological restoration despite the effort of minimizing cost in the project design. The various meetings in Antananarivo helped move the World bank and CELCO's procedures for unblocking the EP3 funding for the restoration activities. One of the most important decisions agreed on was the simplification of the funding flow to the field. Currently, new contracts are being negotiated between CELCO (the manager of the World Bank's EP3 funds) and the Facilitating Agents (FAs). Another important decision is the recruitment of the TAMS coordinator who will deal with the overall supervision of TAMS and will ensure coordination with donors and TAMS staff whether at national level or field level. In the meantime, CI, along with the project manager, is updating the project document (PDD) and is transposing the data needed into the new TARAM tool (TARAM is the equivalent of an Excel version of the PDD).

c. Avoided deforestation the CAZ carbon project

The GOM and the Biocarbon Fund signed the ERPA (Emissions Reduction Purchase Agreement) for the avoided deforestation component of the project (for a total of approximately \$1.5 million). Both parties agreed on the disbursement of \$100,000 of upfront payment on signature of the contract and upon the delivery by the GOM of a plan for the use of this payment. Another \$200,000 is expected upon the validation of the PDD by the Designated Operational Entity (DOE).

d. Readiness PIN

MIARO staff, along with other members of the carbon group, provided assistance to the SG to prepare a Readiness-Project Idea Note for the Forest Carbon Partnership Facility, a new World Bank-managed fund. The R-PIN covered capacity building activities within the Ministry. Selected RPINs will be announced in Paris in early July. The government of Madagascar has received an invitation for the REDD focal point to attend the meeting and present the country's efforts on REDD thus far.

4.2.5. ENABLE ENVIRONMENTAL ACTORS TO OBTAIN INCREASED BUDGETARY ALLOCATIONS FOR THE ENVIRONMENTAL SECTOR THROUGH HIPC/PRSP BUDGETARY ALLOCATIONS AND NON-HIPC DEBT BILATERAL DEBT FOR NATURE SWAPS

The signing of an agreement (*C2D-Contrat Désendettement Développement*) between the Government of Madagascar and the Government of France was completed in June 2008. The agreement provides a debt relief of approximately € 26 Million over five years. 50% of these funds will be provided to the capital fund of the MFPAB (Madagascar Foundation for Protected Areas and Biodiversity).

SUB RESULTS MODULE: 4.3. Stimulate investment for biodiversity conservation

4.3.1. PROMOTE SITE- BASED FUNDING FOR AP PARTICULARLY WITH "NON-TRADITIONAL DONORS" (ZOOS AND ZOO CONSORTIA) LINKED WITH MARKETING STRATEGIES AND BUSINESS PLANS OF THE TWO CONSERVATION FUNDS AND THE PROTECTED AREAS

WCS continues in its collaboration with Zoo Zurich in its support of the Masoala National Park. Zoo Zurich has recently renewed its agreement with the GOM as well as with WCS for continued support of the Park, which provides a minimum payment of \$100,000 per annum.

As technical support to the establishment of the Tsitongambarika PA, WCS and partner organizations CARE and BirdLife International are collaborating on a EASA submission to the EU for further financial support to the establishment of TGK.

4.3.2 PROMOTE GREATER PRIVATE SECTOR PARTICIPATION IN CONSERVATION THROUGH DEBT AND EQUITY FINANCING FOR COMMERCIALY VIABLE BIODIVERSITY BUSINESSES AND ENTERPRISES IN MADAGASCAR

WCS has continued to develop a community-integrated program to produce conservation cotton in peripheral landscape of the Mikea National Park, southwest Madagascar. This program was funded by MIARO in its early start-up phase. The program has now received significant principal funding and has engaged with the association ODER – a Malagasy managed cotton producing organization that has significant experience with organic cotton production in the northwest of the country. A WCS team is situated in the Tulear region, and has begun development of (i) a training center, (ii) a community outreach and engagement program, (iii) 60 ha of land for organic cotton production - during this next coming cultivation season. The 5 year program will establish production of organic cotton as a means of promoting sustainable land use management and reduced anthropogenic threats to the forest of the southwest. The program aims to ensure both production of cotton as well as the manufacture of a Malagasy conservation cotton t-shirt for export. WCS is collaborating with Edun, Organic Exchange and a host of other partners. WCS with assistance from the World Bank has recently submitted a large funding proposal to the Japanese Social Development Fund to allow for the continuation for this multiyear program.

In collaboration with JariAla, WCS has supported the the 'MusicWood Coalition'. With an interest in promoting private sector support to conservation, the MusicWood Tour was a first-step initiative to establish a program for commercial harvest of precious hard woods to be used in the construction of musical instruments. The harvest would be based on a certification scheme introduced through the Tropical Forest Trust (TFT). The visit was co-sponsored and co-financed by the USAID-funded JariAla project which supports reforms in Madagascar to improve sustainable forest management. The manufacturers are all members of the Greenpeace Music Wood Coalition who are working together to increase the availability of traditional woods used by musical instrument manufacturers that can be certified to the exacting management standards of the Forest Stewardship Council (FSC). The Tropical Forest Trust works directly with businesses to link them with sustainably sourced timber products and certifiable supply-chains. The mechanism of transparent, certified, sustainably extracted hard woods would bring a revenue return directly back to the COBAs that engage in the program. MusicWood partners include: Greenpeace, TFT, and representatives of Matin Guitars, Gibson Guitars, and Taylor Guitars.

DEVELOP AND PROMOTE DIVERSE, QUALITY ECOTOURISM PRODUCTS THAT REPRESENT A VISION OF THE GLOBAL ECOTOURISM STANDARD IN AND AROUND KEY PROTECTED AREAS IN MADAGASCAR.

The main achievement over the considered period was the completion of the concessioning framework documents (concessioning contract and its *cahier des charges*), and their presentation during two workshops, on the 5th and the 8th of May.

The objectives of the workshops were to:

- Present and discuss the proposed concessioning contract and its *cahier des charges* (specifications) to the Ministry (restricted technical workshop of the 5th of May) and to representatives of the private sector (public workshop of the 8th of May).
- Present the site selection process and the proposed priority pilot sites for high quality ecotourism investments.

The first restricted workshop was convened between the MEEFT and all direct partners in the promotion of the concessioning initiative (MIARO members, IFC, ANGAP). The second workshop included, in addition to the 5th of May's participants, representatives of the local private sector, identified as potential concessionaires. The content of the concessioning framework documents raised no objection either by the MEEFT or the representatives of the local private sector.

With regards to the priority parks, four clusters of parks have been identified:

- Eastern Cluster (Masoala/Nosy Mangabe; Mananara-Nord/Nosy Atafana);
- Northern Cluster (Ankarana/ Montagne d'Ambre);
- Central Cluster (Andasibe-Mantadia); and
- Northwestern Cluster (Îles Radama/Sahamalaza).

Following the ranking of the parks in priority order, two field missions were successfully undertaken by IFC, CI, WCS and ANGAP to identify sites at the park level, in Mantadia-Andasibe, Ankarana-Montagne d'Ambre and Îles Radama-Sahamalaza (IFC and ANGAP only), for each type of targeted investor (Segment 1: high-end, low-volume ecotourism operators; Segment 2: high-end, medium-volume hotel operators; Segment 3: "best-of-range" local operators). Several sites were identified in each of the assessed parks.

ECOTOURISM CARBON OFFSET

Survey conducted by the value chain analysis process showed that some tourists are interested to see and learn the livelihood of communities living around the Andasibe Reserve. Conservation International envisages to assess the feasibility of the creation of a livelihood tour within the TAMS area where tourists will see both the restoration component and livelihood aspects of the project. This will also allow them to offset their carbon footprint at least for the Madagascar portion of their trip. Such money will provide a long term additional funding for the TAMS activities. The project will contribute to the financial need of TAMS. Meetings were held with ANAE and the FAs who were enthusiastic about it. Also, the SG of the MEEFT found the project interesting and transmitted the concept note to the Director General of the Tourism Department. Currently, CI and ANAE are supporting a Malagasy researcher to develop the concept further. .

USAID ALLIANCE ACTIVITIES

USAID Alliance activities during this semester were focused on activities related to new protected areas establishment with the regional technical committees (cf RM1.4). especially for CAZ and COFAV corridors and the stocktaking process undertaken by USAID for the second quarter.

In the stocktaking exercise, MIARO team is actively contributing in articles publication process, throughout reflection development on several themes in working groups, and taking the lead on articles related to SAPM. It should be noted that the stocktaking is substantial additional work that was not planned for in the annual workplan. This is causing delays in the implementation of some activities, particularly since it is not only MIARO staff that are affected.

At the national level, four themes related to the SAPM development were defined: "Priority setting", "Sustainable financing", "New categories and governance types" and "Benefits to communities".

In the Ecoregions of Toamasina, Fianarantsoa and Anosy, the MIARO team is also involved in regional working groups, other than "SAPM themes" dealing with specific themes to each ecoregion.

The first set of stocktaking articles are supposed to be submitted by June 30, and officially presented in a national workshop in mid august.

III. PROBLEMS AND CONSTRAINTS ENCOUNTERED

RESULT MODULE 1: ECOLOGICAL LINKAGES ESTABLISHED AND MAINTAINED

- During the first half of 2008, no new protected areas received temporary protected status. Several new protected area creation processes were initiated and submitted to DSAP, but delays have occurred in the processing of these requests. Delays have also occurred due to the lengthy process of negotiating with the mining sector.
- The inter-ministerial arête 17914 will expire on October 18, 2008. Yet, several priority conservation sites have not yet received temporary protected status. The map attached to the arête will be updated and will serve as the basis for discussions with other sectors, but we must make efforts to conserve these sites as quickly as possible.
- The proposed amendment to the COAP was not submitted to the government in May 2008 as originally planned and has been rescheduled for September 2008. This delay was at the minister's request.
- Several new protected area teams have already completed local consultations and data collection necessary for the development of the PAG and PGES. However, problems still exist regarding the development of these documents. This is an issue as these documents are required for definitive protected status.
- Several priority sites currently have neither promoters nor funding to move forward with new protected area creation.
- Results obtained by the taxonomic group on identifying priority sites for new protected areas have not been sufficiently communicated to various actors at the national and regional levels. This contributes to misunderstanding and inaccurate interpretations on the part of some stakeholders.
- COFAV: This reporting period has coincided with various electoral campaigns, which resulted in various delays in activity implementation (e.g., public consultations could have been misinterpreted as political movements). Thus, no public consultations were conducted during these campaigns.
- The funding from the World Bank for TAMS is still blocked and, hence, planting of the remaining trees in the nurseries - which currently are suffering - as well as the production of new plants have to be halted. CI has provide additional funding to the project to relieve the problems but ultimately the EP3 funds will be needed to plant at the scale required by the the project. This will have an impact on the flow of the expected carbon revenue as the project will fail to generate the timely carbon credits as planned. The project still also experiences the ever-changing requirements of the CDM secretariat which became ever stricter. Only the land that will be planted should be defined as the project area, forcing TAMS to reduce the area presented in the PDD. Also, the minimum size of individual planting plots is now required to be at least one hectare whereas aggregation of small plots used to be accepted as long as the whole bunch exceeds the hectare. The template version of the PDD was changed and the project document needs to be updated accordingly.

RESULT MODULE 2: MANAGEMENT EFFECTIVENESS FOR CONSERVATION AREAS IMPROVED

RM2 has been solicited to be more extensive in NPAs support, taking on more sites. These must include the three USAID focal ecoregions, including CAZ and COFAV. In addition, several commune mayors in the North (Region of Diana) joined the team periodically and asked for similar support from

MIARO for additional sites that are sacred, in good shape and biologically significant. These requests were unsolicited and at least one mayor got DREEFT endorsement.

RESULT MODULE 4: SUSTAINABLE FINANCING MECHANISMS MOBILIZED AND OPERATIONAL

Implementing a watershed PES mechanism is quite complicated. Many discussions with people experienced with PES projects highlighted the importance of having a strong basis for implementation, socially, scientifically and economically to ensure an effective project. These discussions clarified the process but also illustrated that there are still many steps in the process of assessment before getting to implementation. Ensuring an effective plan for assessment and implementation is critical however is more complicated than initial thought and will add unexpected time delay.

There was a significant delay in the “installation” of the new *service* of sustainable financing that was part of the broader restructuring process for the Ministry as a whole that set back the process somewhat. This process is quite political in some dimensions and complicated and requires a high degree of collaboration with partners. Gathering all relevant information and studies that support implementation has been lengthy. In addition, ONTM is launching a similar study into the possibility of using a fee on air transportation to fund ONTM and tourism related activities that could reduce the amount collected for the environment.

The absence of Ministerial decision-making on specific issues related to the concessioning framework remains a major constraint for the advancement of activities. Examples of such issues include: who should be the final conceding authority? What concession fee structure is the MEEFT in favour of? What mechanism for redistribution of the concessioning fee revenues does the MEEFT envisage?

IV. RECOMMENDED SOLUTIONS

RESULT MODULE 1: ECOLOGICAL LINKAGES ESTABLISHED AND MAINTAINED

Guide on Sustainable Use – This guide needs to include a chapter that addresses the question of use at a rate that does not exceed the regeneration rates of the species in question. It should also provide guidance on (a) precautionary rates of use and (b) monitoring of use and regeneration of species used. A consultant is needed to complete these activities.

- Prioritization – The priority setting group needs to develop documents and tools on the prioritization to communicate at all levels of the work that has been completed and the results achieved by the group.
- New Protected Area Creation – Given the objectives outlined in the *Programme Generale de l'Etat* for 2008 for the surface area of new protected areas to be created, the DSAP and the CIMF need to accelerate the processing of applications and requests, especially as concerns those sites that overlap with mining permits.
- COAP – In order to submit the proposed COAP amendment and new decree to the National Assembly in early September 2008, other sectors and stakeholders need to be consulted as soon as possible, missing elements need to be integrated into the amendment, and the proposed decree needs to be finalized.
- Conservation Action Grants (CAG) – MIARO is currently issuing CAG to provide funds to support promoters or other organizations implement activities that support SAPM. The CAG will also support promoters to establish new protected areas.
- In order to relieve the suffering of plants in the nurseries and those that had been planted, CI provided ANAE a small amount of funding to allow the minimum required maintenance activities both in nurseries and in the restored areas. CI and ANAE are now working on

updating the project area by the deletion of restoration plots less than 1 hectare in size and others that have potential conflict. The PDD is also currently updated according to the last changes within the project and the latest international requirements.

Meetings held in Tana and in the field during the Biocarbon Fund mission brought promising solutions to the funding problem of TAMS. The main decisions and the related courses of actions are already dealt with in the achievement section about the Biocarbon Fund visit.

RESULT MODULE 2: MANAGEMENT EFFECTIVENESS FOR CONSERVATION AREAS IMPROVED

Concerning CAZ, the issues seem to be very similar to those in Diana. MIARO prioritizes and the RM2 team will attempt to provide support, based on directives. There is an excellent opportunity to have MIARO help Diana develop a regional vision for biodiversity that could be integrated into its MAP. Finally, based on experiences gained through the planning process, RM2 is also looking forward to improving the PG design.

RESULT MODULE 4: SUSTAINABLE FINANCING MECHANISMS MOBILIZED AND OPERATIONAL

Having a clear understanding of the many facets of a watershed based PES project has allowed for the development of more targeted Terms of Reference and Action Plan. Through these efforts progress will be more focused on attaining results that contribute to project implementation and will assist in future progress.

There has been close collaboration with the *service* since that has resulted in the revision of the Action Plan. Re-orienting activities, in collaboration with the *service*, will facilitate progress especially with activities that involve the government. In addition the technical assistant hired as part of the MIARO project for sustainable financing has provided further support and been actively involved in the process. Ensuring a solid base of study and argument on all relevant subjects should ease the process of implementation. Collaboration with ONTM will likely reduce the amount that will be dedicated to the environment however a joint plan for implementation could make the case stronger. Similarly it could provide an opportunity for cost-sharing and studies that cut across sectors.

The intervention of a senior member of MIARO seems necessary to push for decision-making at the Ministerial level, especially if, as projected, the first investment by a Segment 1 operator is to be secured by December 2008.

V. DISCUSSIONS OF OBJECTIVES NOT ACHIEVED

RESULT MODULE 1: ECOLOGICAL LINKAGES ESTABLISHED AND MAINTAINED

- During the first half of 2008, no new protected areas received temporary protected status. Several new protected area creation processes were initiated and submitted to DSAP, but delays have occurred in the processing of these requests. Delays have also occurred due to the lengthy process of negotiating with the mining sector.
- For the « délégation de gestion », JARIALA hired a consultant for the elaboration of a decree for the global framework. During the first half of 2008, it was planned to develop “the texte d’application de délégation de gestion” for the SAPM but it was not done because the Decree is not yet available.
- We planned to support the DSAP to establish a communication plan on SAPM. We will prepare the ToR during the second half of 2008 and present it to DSAP before hiring a local STTA.

- For the autoevaluation of new protected areas managers teams and the identification of training needs, we tried first to apply the framework of assessment of the management for some new protected areas, even if they had not already the finally status of protection. For the second half of 2008, we will involve the DSAP in the process and the operators of each new protected area and develop a questionnaire for the assessment of protected areas under the temporary status.
- For 1.5, no work was carried out during the first semester 2008 issued to the restructuring at the DGEEF, particularly the absence of the Director General for Water and Forests. The main consequence of this gap is the lack of non-strategic decision taken regarding the forest restoration.
The appointment of Gérard Rambeloarisoa, who was in charge of the forest restoration within MIARO, to the post of Director General of Water and Forests, may facilitate the advancement of this strategy.

RESULT MODULE 2: MANAGEMENT EFFECTIVENESS FOR CONSERVATION AREAS IMPROVED

For the management planning guide, it is important to look forward to the appropriation of promoters and DGEEF / DSAP of the current system and methodology before finalizing this important tool. In addition, NPAs are currently taking advantage of the introduction of the new software (Miradi) and RM2 would like to capitalize the use of this, and then will integrate the program as a standard accompanying element to the management planning process.

RESULT MODULE 4: SUSTAINABLE FINANCING MECHANISMS MOBILIZED AND OPERATIONAL

The implementation of a green fee is still very promising yet has been encumbered by the re-organization of the MEEFT, the need to work closely with partners, the need to address as many potential concerns that would block implementation before launching an official effort and a need to coordinate with the tourism sector that is also targeting a similar fee. These elements have rendered the process longer but in the end will make for a stronger case in favor of implementation.

The work on PES is advancing however it is more complicated than first expected. A team sent to Fianarantsoa was delayed significantly and the feasibility of a watershed based PES mechanism in Fianarantsoa will be very challenging to implement. In light of delays a second site has been identified in the Eastern Region of Madagascar for follow up and the follow-up is being prepared. The incorporation of local information into the matrix of PES mechanisms adds an important dimension of understanding to the overall pictures of PES possibilities in Madagascar and the updated matrix is pending finalization.

VI. LESSONS LEARNED

RESULT MODULE 1: ECOLOGICAL LINKAGES ESTABLISHED AND MAINTAINED

The implication and the leadership of the Minister of Environment, Waters and Forest in the implementation of the SAPM are very important for example for the COAP amendment.

RESULT MODULE 2: MANAGEMENT EFFECTIVENESS FOR CONSERVATION AREAS IMPROVED

The Diana Region experience has been interesting, in part because of lessons learned in previous planning exercises. A good integration of local stakeholders has been noted and helpful.

It is however clear that due to the staff shortage in MIARO for the support to NPAs management planning process; it is difficult to satisfy all the needs within the setting up of the SAPM.

RESULT MODULE 4: SUSTAINABLE FINANCING MECHANISMS MOBILIZED AND OPERATIONAL

The “buy-in” of the government of Madagascar is imperative to launching successful government campaigns. In this regard the development of the sustainable financing *service* can be viewed as a significant achievement. Further so if the goal is sustainable financing that is relatively independent of outside support. In the case of green fees it may sometimes slow the process to ensure that the respective government persons are on board but over time having the support of the government is felt to be intrinsic to success.

In relation to developing a PES activity based on watersheds has shown that establishing the link between a “consumer” of water and a natural resource that can be managed by a target audience is very complicated. The process is further complicated if consumers are relatively poor. The scientific link has been understood to be a critical part of the process and is not as evident as one might initially imagine. There is still significant potential for the development of such a project but ensuring the right conditions for implementation has been deemed a crucial element of the process.

VII. ACHIEVEMENT TABLE

This table summarizes all activities related within the workplan 2008 submitted at the beginning of the year.

RESULT MODULE 1: ECOLOGICAL LINKAGES WITHIN AND BETWEEN LANDSCAPES ESTABLISHED AND/OR MAINTAINED BY EXPANDING BIODIVERSITY HABITAT CONSERVATION

Sub RM Activities	Performance Indicator	Annual Target 2008	Actual 2008 (Semester 1)	Perspective 2008 (Semester 2)
1.1 Promote the definition of policy and legal parameters for the establishment of new protected areas	Categories and management options of new protected areas which form the “systeme d’aires protégées” implemented	Category and governance of at least 5 new protected areas determined	The trend of the category and governance of the new protected areas is determined	Category and governance of new protected areas which had the temporary protection on 2005 will be determined definitely. The same for some new protected areas which had the temporary protection in 2006.
	Definitive “Decret de creation” for the “systeme d’aires protégées de Madagascar” promulgated	1,3 million ha of new protected areas have definitive status	The locale consultations are generally done for 9 new protected areas and the preparation of PAG, PGES is in progress.	At least 9 new protected areas will have definitive status
	Stakeholders at provincial, regional and local level well informed on” Systeme d’Aires Protégée de Madagascar” and “land use planning”	Regions, communes	A communication on SAPM was organized for the Region of Vakinankaratra, the Region of DIANA (Ambodivahibe and Orangea),	A communication on SAPM will be organized in Itremo, Anadabolava, and other new protected areas

1.2. Identify and promote potential new protected areas in consultation with regional and local actors	Map of urgent conservation priority available and validated by stakeholders (regional and local level)	At least 2 terrestrial sites, marine/ZH	The “ schema global d’amenagement” of the following new protected areas are available and validated by stakeholders: Ambodivahibe, Orangea	The “ schema global d’amenagement” will be available for Itremo, Anadabolava and other new protected areas
	Priority site list (terrestrial, marine and freshwater) improved for all Madagascar by using appropriate analytical tools for planning and database of key biodiversity		The update of the map of priority sites for the creation of new protected areas is in progress	The map of priority sites will be validated and the negotiation with the Ministry of Energy and Mines will be finished.
	Communication plans at regional and national level available and operational			The ToR will be established and presented to DSAP before hiring a local STTA.
	Reportage conducted for all new protected area created	At least 1 film on new protected areas established	3 films on SAPM were produced and one reportage by radio and television	
	Elaborating and updating of key messages	1 basis of communication on System of protected areas updated		
	Training and information for different vectors of communication on new protect areas system	3 training or workshops in new protected areas	2 trainings completed with journalists	
	General awareness raising on new protected areas creation conducted at different levels (National, Regional and Local)	1 poster 1 leaflet	Leaflet completed and distributed in English and French	
1.3. Establish new protected areas	Biodiversity conservation priorities validated through the process of consultation with local partners	At least 2 terrestrial sites, marine/ZH	Corridor forestier Bongolava, Montagne des Français	These two new protected areas will have the decree of creation before the end of 2008.

	New protected areas outside USAID priority ecoregions created	At least 2 terrestrial sites, marine/ZH	The preparation of the Decree of creation is in progress for the following new protected areas outside USAID priority ecoregions: Lokia- manambato, Makira, Corridor Anjozorobe- Angavo, Menabe Central, Montagne des Français.	5 new protected areas outside USAID priority ecoregions will be created
	Capacity needs for the management of new protected areas identified	At least 4 terrestrial sites, marine/ZH	The framework of assessment of the management was applied for some new protected areas, even if they had not already the finally status of protection	DSAP will be involved in the process and also the promoters of each new protected area and a questionnaire will be developed for the assessment of protected areas under the temporary status.
	Guide for “new protected areas” creation and management elaborated and available	Guide implemented	The guide for “new protected areas” creation and management elaborated and available	The guide will be validated and distributed to partners.
1.4. Refine conservation priorities in USAID priority eco-regions	Vision of biodiversity conservation available and biodiversity conservation priorities validated through the process of consultation with local partners		The consultation with local partners was done for the 20 communes of CAZ. Re-Negotiation will be organized in some communes. The consultation with local partners is in progress for COFFAV.	Re-negotiation will be done and the limits of the new protected area adjusted. The consultation with local partners must be done before the end of 2008
	Plan de gestion of corridor elaborated and implemented		The necessary elements for the elaboration of PAG have been collected during the locale consultations. A consultant will be hired to elaborate the PAG and the ToR are available	PAG and PGES of CAZ will be elaborated.
	New protected areas in USAID priority ecoregions created		The preparation of the Decree of creation is in progress for the following new protected areas in USAID priority ecoregions: CAZ, Kodida, Ifotaky, Ambatotsirongorongo	CAZ, Kodida, Ifotaky and Ambatotsirongorongo will have the Decree of creation before the end of 2008

	Capacity needs for the management of new protected areas identified			
1.5. Develop forest restoration functions and procedures in USAID priority eco-regions	Forest restoration strategy established			
	Action plans developed in pilot zones	TBD		
	A network of forest restoration practitioners established	3 workshops in the region	1 practitioner's workshop organized	
	Number of field exchange between practitioner's	4	2 exchanges organized	2 exchanges organized

RESULT MODULE 2: MANAGEMENT EFFECTIVENESS FOR PROTECTED AREAS MANAGEMENT IMPROVED

Sub RM Activities	Performance Indicator	Annual target 2008	Actual 2008 (Semester 1)	Perspective 2008 (Semester 2)
2.1. Develop and/or refine conservation management plans and other thematic plans for protected areas.	Number of PAs with updated plans completed	52	33 (3 additional sites: Ankodida, Ifotaka and Menabe Central)	20 (Station forestiere à usage multiple d'Antrema, Manambato-Daraina, Makira, Couloir forestier Anjzorobe Angavo, Corridor Ankeniheny-Zahamena, Nord Ifotaky, Kodida, Ambatotsirongorongo, Menabe Central, Mandena, Ambato Atsinanana, Tampolo, Analalava, Corridor forestier Bongolava, Corridor Fandriana-Vondrozo, Montagne des Francais, Corridor forestier Mahavavy-Kinkony, Amoron'Onilahy, Lac Alaotra, Andreba, Allee des Baobabs, Complexe Mikea)
2.2. Improve and fully implement annual programmatic work plans for protected areas	Number of PAs with monitoring and evaluation systems in place	50	33 (3 additional sites: Ankodida, Ifotaka and Menabe Central)	20 (Station forestiere à usage multiple d'Antrema, Manambato-Daraina, Makira, Couloir forestier Anjzorobe Angavo, Corridor Ankeniheny-Zahamena, Nord Ifotaky, Kodida, Ambatotsirongorongo, Menabe Central, Mandena, Ambato)

				Atsinanana, Tampolo, Analalava, Corridor forestier Bongolava, Corridor Fandriana-Vondrozo, Montagne des Francais, Corridor forestier Mahavavy-Kinkony, Amoron'Onilahy, Lac Alaotra, Andreba, Allee des Baobabs, Complexe Mikea)
2.3. Develop an appropriate system of business plans and marketing programs for protected areas	Number of PAs with business plans	52	0	52

RESULT MODULE 4: SUSTAINABLE FINANCING MECHANISMS OPERATIONAL

Sub RM Activities	Performance Indicator	Annual Target 2008	Actual 2008 (Semester 1)	Perspective 2008 (Semester 2)
4.1. Expand and develop management capacity of Malagasy Environmental Trust Funds/Foundations	Increased investments in and conservation impacts of Tany Meva and of the Madagascar Biodiversity and Protected Areas Trust Fund	Additional funds mobilized to support models for managing additional “sites de conservation”	<p>Tany Meva foundation</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Ongoing review of Tany Meva structure - Training workshop on Plan Vivo <p>SPF</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Support to the newly created SPF through the hire of an expert in sustainable financing consultant <p>MFPAB</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Increase of capital secured through the C2D agreement - First draft of Prioritization Plan, Strategic Plan and Communication Document developed 	<p>Tany Meva foundation</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - TM is restructured and key manuals produced - A portfolio of forest carbon projects identified - Priority sites identified for TM support in community managed PA <p>MFPAB</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Strategic documents finalized - Proposal for MacArthur grant developed - Prioritization policy developed and operational
4.2. Build on efforts made and cooperate with other EP3 actors to mobilize potential sources of income for forest habitat conservation and for the système des aires protégées (outside ANGAP parks)	Increased revenues for forest habitat conservation, from diverse sources and financing mechanisms	One additional mechanism in place and operational by the end of the year	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - PES study in selected sites around Fianarantsoa - Test of the PA BAT Tool - Pre-evaluation of the Makira carbon project by SmartWood - Signing of agreement between the GOM for the sale of up to 9 million tons of CO2 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Sustainable financing activities better coordinated within MEEFT - Policy and programmatic actions identified - Organize a biodiversity offset meeting/workshop - Legal and operational PES assessment completed - PES workshop held - Makira carbon credit

			<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Negotiation of an upfront of \$300,00 for the CAZ avoided deforestation upon the achievement of the payment conditionality - Signing of the C2D agreement for an amount of €26M dedicated to environment sector 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> certified through VCS - Feasibility study completed for COFFAV - Monitoring methodology developed for TAMS - Carbon REDD strategy developed with the GOM - Air transport surcharge accepted by the Ministry
4.3. Stimulate investment for biodiversity conservation	Increased private sector investment in environmental conservation	Two additional conservation/ecotourism-related businesses operational	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Renewal of agreement between GOM and the Zoo Zurich - Engagement of ODER to manages organic cotton production - Organization of the MusicWood Tour - Production of the concessioning framework documents 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - New partnership with site funding agreed on - Concession framework policy validated and pilot site selected

VIII. NEXT STEPS

This part summarizes all activities related within the workplan 2008 submitted at the beginning of the year.

RESULT MODULE 1: ECOLOGICAL LINKAGES WITHIN AND BETWEEN LANDSCAPES ESTABLISHED AND/OR MAINTAINED BY EXPANDING BIODIVERSITY HABITAT CONSERVATION

- Give technical support to the promoters of new protected areas outside and in USAID priority Ecoregions to prepare the temporary status and the decree of creation.
- Discuss with the DSAP about the reconciliation, approval, and distribution of the various protected area creation tools developed by the SAPM Commission and also the communication plan on SAPM.
- Prepare the ToR for the technical aspects of the Guide to sustainable use of natural resources and hire a local STTA.
- Prepare documents and tools on the works realized and results obtained by prioritization group and distribute to stakeholders at national and regional level.
- Validate the map of priority sites for the creation of new protected areas and negotiate to the Ministry of Energy and Mines.
- Concerning the amendment to the COAP, additional consultation of other sectors and stakeholders must be completed until mid august to ensure the amendment is submitted in time for the parliamentary session of September 2008.

- For the identification of capacity needs for the management of new protected areas, DSAP will be involved in the process and also the promoters of each new protected area and a questionnaire will be developed for the assessment of protected areas under the temporary status.

RESULT MODULE 2: MANAGEMENT EFFECTIVENESS FOR PROTECTED AREAS MANAGEMENT IMPROVED

The following next steps will be addressed for the second semester 2008:

- Complete the support to the management planning process and present the management plans in their final design. This will concern NPAs in southern and western Regions (Menabe-Antimena, Ankodida and Ifotaky), those in northern (Montagne des Français, Oranjia and Ambodivahibe).
- Contribute in supporting other sites in priority ecoregions (CAZ and CoFaV for instance as well as sites in southwestern Madagascar, such as PK32 Ranobe, Amoron'i Onilahy and others)
- Support the setting up of governance structures and tools in priority NPAs, those mentioned above, and any issues related to the EIA and communities safeguard. These will expand the management plan process.
- Finalize the new management planning guide by integrating the Miradi software and the issues of categories and safeguard.
- Assist DSAP in elaborating monitoring strategies that will be led by the new Service du Suivi Ecologique.
- Assist DGEEF / DSAP in developing an evaluation system for SAPM.

RESULT MODULE 4: SUSTAINABLE FINANCING MECHANISMS OPERATIONAL

Tany Meva foundation

- Current restructuring efforts of the Tany Meva Foundation will be completed before the end of the year and updated key manuals will be produced subsequently.
- Following the Plan Vivo training and the interest of communities to implement forestry carbon project, Tany Meva is expected to have a portfolio of projects to submit to the Plan Vivo Foundation.
- Apart from Makira, WCS will work with TM to identify other PA sites that fit for a community-based management.

MFPAB

- The current drafts of strategic documents (strategic plan and communication document) will be finalized and validated by the end of 2008.
- To improve its fundraising capacity, strategy will be developed and related proposal will be submitted to Mac Arthur
- Prioritization policy will be developed and will be operational to allow objective selection of PAs that deserve funding priority.

Technical support to the Committee of the Durban vision group

- Continuous support will be provided to the Service de Perennisation Financiere within the MEEFT to ensure better coordination of the multitude of ongoing sustainable finance initiatives either through meeting or working groups

Increase the understanding of the value of conservation in Madagascar

- MIARO will organize a event on biodiversity offset and will continue the support of existing pilot offset projects
- A workshop on PES will be held and before the end of the year, legal and operational assessment of PES system will be completed

Carbon related project

- The Makira REDD project will be VCS certified whereas feasibility study will be conducted for the COFFAV to implement REDD carbon project
- The TAMS monitoring methodology will be developed and related plots installed
- The Madagascar REDD strategy will be completed with the support of MIARO and FCPF
- TAMS support
- Finalization and signature of contract between the EP3 fund manager and the field Facilitating Agents
- Recruitment of the project coordinator
- Resuming of planting activities and plant production
- Sending of the operational use of the \$100,000 upfront payment by the GOM
- Continue the process on the development of the Madagascar REDD strategy
- Begin planning session and training provided that the project is approved by the World Bank

Green taxes

- Air transport surcharge decree will be submitted to the National assemble and approved, and accepted by stakeholders

Site-based funding for PA from non-traditional donors

- Extend or renew partnership with Zoo Zurich and seek new partnership that can support the conservation of biodiversity important sites

Greater private sector participation

- Concession framework policy validated and selection of pilot site