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Environment & Natural Resources



# WB: Engagement in Madagascar and Commitment to REDD+

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# Importance of REDD+ in Madagascar

- Part of an effort to protect Madagascar's unique biodiversity, much of which is endemic and found nowhere else in the world.
- Part of the sustainable financing strategy for National Protected Area Systems that covers 10% of the island.
- REDD+ approach integrates attributes that are key to WB twin goals of shared prosperity and reducing poverty.
- Important relationship to illegal forest exploitation.
- Important focus on improving rural livelihoods.

# National Commitment to REDD+

- Madagascar is a pre-cursor of REDD+ efforts in Africa
  - 5 REDD+ projects implemented since 2001
  - REDD+ pilot projects have already led to over 4.5M
  - FCPF Participant since 2008
  - Signed ERPA with BioCF for avoided deforestation in 2008
- Submitted R-PP in 2010 (twice), informally in 2013 and again in 2014
- Policy dialogue on benefit sharing very advanced
  - A project level mechanism nearly finalized
  - 50% of benefits going to communities and local administrations

# Emerging from political crisis

- Non-emergency operations were suspended in 2008, however REDD+ activities continued through support from NGOs, the government and other partners
- Elections in 2013 and the formation of a national Government brought Madagascar back to international norms
  - EU fully resumes development cooperation in May 2014
  - United States lifted all restrictions on direct assistance to the Government of Madagascar
- WB lifted OP7.30 on “dealing with de-facto Governments” and has resumed formal re-engagement with the government

# Complementary to WB investments

- Third Environmental Program Additional Financing aiming at Protected Areas financing (\$42M, ongoing and to be completed in 2014)
- WB Contribution to Protected Areas endowment fund (now totaling \$17.5M)
- Technical assistance on managing and disposing of precious woods stockpiles (ongoing)
- Emergency agriculture and food security projects (~\$120M, projected for 2015)
- 2<sup>nd</sup> Integrated Growth Poles (~\$90M projected for 2015)
- Natural Capital Accounting-WAVES (\$2M, ongoing and to be completed in 2017)



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