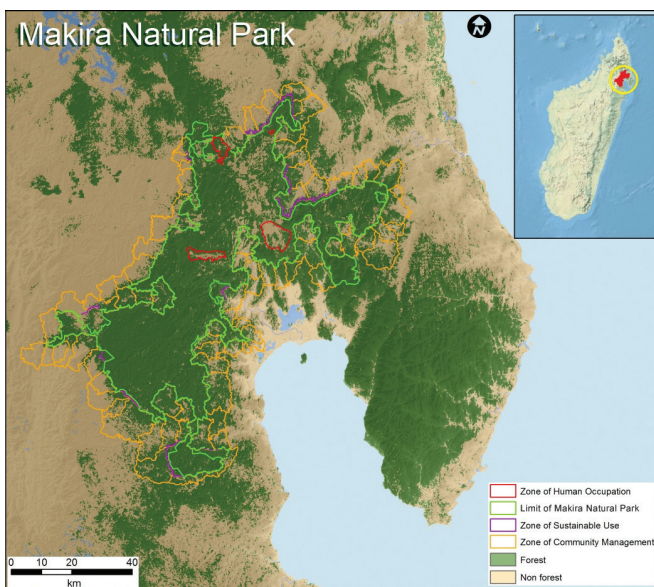




# THE MAKIRA REDD+ PROJECT

In 2012, the Makira Forest became Makira Natural Park: Madagascar's newest and largest park, and an IUCN category II protected area. The Makira REDD+ Project sells carbon credits generated from avoiding deforestation in order to finance the long-term conservation of this pristine rainforest system and prevent more than 33 million tonnes of CO<sub>2</sub> emissions over the course of 30 years.



Scientists estimate that around 15 percent of the carbon emissions fueling climate change are caused by deforestation and degradation; deforestation threatens not only the planet's biodiversity and landscapes, but also the well-being of 1.6 billion people whose homes and livelihoods depend upon forest ecosystems. The Wildlife Conservation Society (WCS), through a long-term partnership with the government of Madagascar, is the delegated manager of Makira Natural Park, ensuring the safeguarding of this landscape's unique and globally valued natural capital. Through the Makira REDD+ Project, the Makira Natural Park will achieve permanent forest conservation through an integrated approach to reduce human threats to the region's forests while at the same time engaging these communities in the management of the project area.

## BENEFITS OF CARBON FOR CONSERVATION PROJECTS

**CONSERVING BIODIVERSITY:** About one half of Madagascar's unique biodiversity—and one percent of the world's biodiversity—exists within the greater Makira landscape. The area is home to 20 of the country's identified lemur species, including some of the world's most endangered primates.

**PROTECTING ECOSYSTEM SERVICES:** With 17 rivers rising in its forests, Makira is a zone of watershed protection and catchment, ensuring clean water for over 250,000 inhabitants who live in the greater landscape and contributing to the agriculture-based economy of local people.

**EMPOWERING LOCAL COMMUNITIES:** The Makira REDD+ Project strives to directly empower the 50,000 people living around the protected area by providing revenues to improve infrastructure, education, and health services; strengthening land tenure security and resource rights, which in turn supports sustainable agriculture and alternative livelihoods; and encouraging local investment and participation in park and forest management.





## PROJECT OUTLINE

- The Makira REDD+ Project is verified by the Verified Carbon Standard (VCS) and has achieved Gold Level validation by the Climate, Community, and Biodiversity (CCB) Standard.
- The project activity uses the REDD Methodology Framework (REDD-MF), Approved VCS Methodology VM0007, version 1.0.
- In September 2012, the Makira REDD+ Project achieved verification of 830,772 Verified Carbon Units (VCUs) for the years 2005-2009.
- The Makira REDD+ Project will generate an average of 500,000 tonnes of CO<sub>2</sub> verified carbon reductions each year between 2010 and 2020.
- In June 2008, the Government of Madagascar and Makira Carbon Company formed an agreement outlining the benefit sharing and management mechanism for the Makira REDD+ Project. After costs for the issuance and registration of the Makira VCUs are paid, the net proceeds from carbon revenues will be distributed; over 90% will be distributed to Malagasy stakeholders in a benefit-sharing arrangement.



Photo Credit: Julie Larsen Maher © WCS

## PRICING AND CARBON CREDITS NOW AVAILABLE THROUGH WCS

Makira REDD+ carbon credits are now available through WCS, as the Park manager and designated broker. Please contact Todd Stevens or Amy Harclerode to discuss pricing of Makira VCUs based on volume.



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