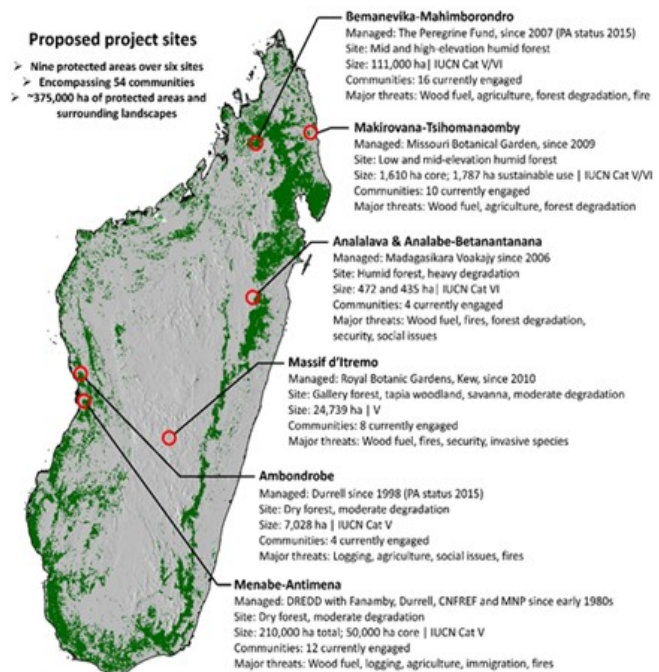
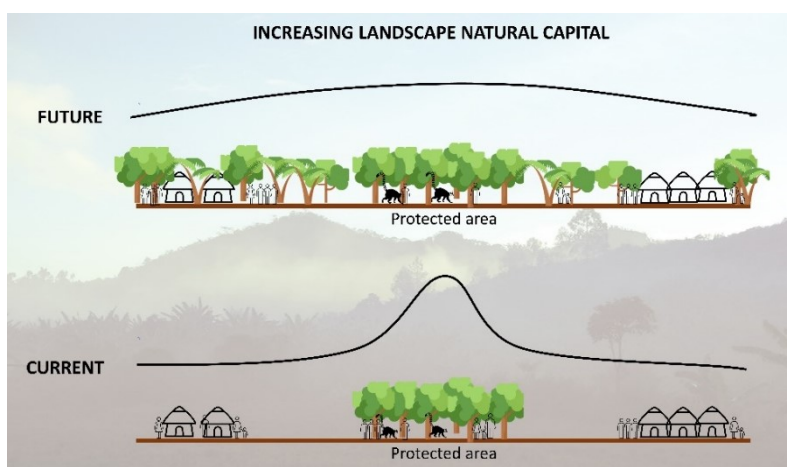


Building a community-led conservation model for Madagascar's Protected Area Network

Madagascar's Protected Area Network has been established to protect most of the island's unique and threatened habitats, biodiversity, and ecosystems, including globally important forests. The landscapes within and around this network are also home to thousands of rural, largely nature-dependent communities that rely on these protected areas, their resources and ecosystem services, to provide essential benefits that underpin their wellbeing. Successful management of Madagascar's protected areas is therefore inextricably linked to and contingent on delivering sustainable and equitable development for people in the surrounding landscape. While Madagascar's biodiversity enriches the lives of all humanity, rural Malagasy must not be disadvantaged by its conservation.



Royal Botanic Gardens Kew is leading a consortium of conservation and development NGOs as part of a major £10m investment in Madagascar, through the Defra Biodiverse Landscapes Fund. Building on over 100 years of combined community-based conservation experience in Madagascar, and mobilising a predominately Malagasy team, we seek to deliver a data driven and evidence-based model for the sustainable management of Madagascar's protected areas, that tackles poverty, biodiversity loss and climate change in unison.



We are seeking a highly motivated *Project Officer* to help us deliver on this significant new project, to benefit both biodiversity and people. This is an exciting opportunity to play a central role in a six-year programme, encompassing seven conservation, humanitarian and sustainable development organisations working collaboratively across nine protected areas,

encompassing all of Madagascar's major biomes. Based at Kew gardens in London (remote working considered?), this role will work closely with the Kew Madagascar Conservation Center as well as a network of collaborating organisation including Madagascar Voakajy, Durrell Wildlife and Conservation Trust, Missouri Botanical Garden, The Peregrine Fund and CARE International.

A major feature of this project is integration and management of data, to critically evaluate the most impactful and cost-effective conservation and livelihood interventions. The ideal candidate will be familiar with collating and managing diverse information sources including household surveys, biodiversity data, remote sensing data and community monitoring indicators. Activities across the consortium include forest regeneration and restoration, sustainable agriculture, landscape fire management, building capacity of local conservation managers, village savings and loans associations and access to family planning among others.

For as long as protected areas represent a resource-rich island in a landscape of critically compromised natural capital, they will inevitably be subjected to increasing pressure. The biodiversity and carbon they hold will be eroded, along with the ecosystem services they provide, whilst dependent livelihoods will become increasingly vulnerable. By investing in local needs and enhancing the natural capital of the surrounding landscapes we hope to reduce pressures on the natural ecosystems on which these communities rely. By reducing such pressures, we will also be able to protect and restore PAs within Madagascar to ensure provision of myriad ecosystem services that will continue to feed and support communities in the future.

For any questions, please contact Dr James Borrell (j.borrell@kew.org)

