

Process Framework for Involuntary Restrictions

Date

CEPF Grant #109381

Grantee

Managing Fires and monitoring forests in Ankarafantsika National Park in Madagascar.

Project Location
Madagascar

Grant Summary

1. Grantee organization: Planet Madagascar
Grant title: Managing Fires and monitoring forests in Ankarafantsika National Park in Madagascar.
2. Grant number: #109381
3. Grant amount (US dollars): 198,009.48
4. Proposed dates of grant: April 1, 2020- March 31, 2022
5. Countries or territories where project will be undertaken: Madagascar
6. Date of preparation of this document: March 2, 2020.

The Process Framework will describe the project and how restrictions of access to natural resources and measures to assist affected communities. Affected communities should have the opportunity to participate in the drafting of the Process Framework. Typically, the Applicant will prepare a draft Framework that will then be shared and discussed with local communities and other relevant stakeholders. Based on the consultations, a final Framework will be prepared. CEPF may provide guidance on development of the Framework and will review and approve the final Framework prior to approving the final project proposal application. The Process Framework should include the following elements:

A. Project background

Ankarafantsika National Park is located in the northwest of Madagascar. Ankarafantsika has National Park status and is protected by Madagascar National Parks. Despite being a legally protected National Park, Ankarafantsika is not immune to damage due to agricultural practices, resource exploitation, and uncontrolled fire. Though natural fire occurs within the landscape and are part of the natural ecology of the forest, anthropogenic fires have resulted in reduced deciduous dry forest in the area. With this project, Planet Madagascar seeks to work with local communities to find mutually beneficial solutions to reducing the impact of fire on the forest.

To that end, we will conduct fire management patrols to monitor an 8000 ha fire management zone, within Ankarafantsika National Park. The management zone contains a series of habitat fragments that were created and maintained by anthropogenic fire. The resulting landscape is a mosaic of continuous forest, forest fragments, and anthropogenic savannah. To alleviate the impact of fire on the remaining dry deciduous forest within the management zone, we will create and maintain a network of firebreaks to buffer forest from uncontrolled fire and work with Madagascar National Parks to back-burn near firebreaks to reduce fuel load in the landscape. We will also pilot a phone-based system for fire management patrol teams to monitor and report anthropogenic activities (e.g. fires, forest extraction, hunting) in the area. We will engage and educate the local livestock keepers that use the management zone to graze their cattle on productive ways to control grazing to help reduce fire load within a landscape, the on importance of specific grazing regimes for protecting the forest for lemur habitat, and to reduce the impact of fire. We will also invest in building Planet Madagascar's capacity to increase our ability to conduct projects in the long-term -- through increased staffing and training opportunities. We will explore mechanisms to address the root causes of forest destruction (income security) through site visits with other organizations addressing this issue. We will implement new income building projects, including beekeeping and citrus farming.

Our project closely involves community members from three communities in Ankarafantsika: Maevatanimbary, Andranohobaka, and Ambarindahy. Those three communities are within the management zone. There are additional communities that lie outside the management zone, but whose members could be impacted by this project. Specifically, it could impact members of the communities who use the area within the management zone to graze their cattle (burning grasses for grazing). As

well, the project could impact individuals outside of the three communities but use the management zone to graze their cattle.

The impact may take the form of improved monitoring of the area (by Planet Madagascar and Madagascar National Parks) or via improved education/awareness and resulting in pressure not to burn and graze from other community members who are involved in the project. It is notable that we are working within existing laws and regulation and are not creating new regulatory restrictions. Although Madagascar National Parks may enforce restrictions, we do not. Our proposed project seeks to work with the community members, and particularly the cattle grazers to come up with equitable solutions that will meet the needs of the people and of the protected forest and the wildlife within.

B. Participatory implementation

Planet Madagascar has been working in Ankarafantsika since 2015, and so we have strong ties with the communities as well as with the National Park authorities. Our past projects, as well as this project, incorporates activities that are focused on meeting with community stakeholders and national park authorities to discuss the needs and challenges of all parties and to discuss what kind of solutions might work. Planet Madagascar reviews the information gathered from these meetings to inform the projects. For example, results from a 2014, revealed that over 70% of the people did not have knowledge of the different lemur species in their region, and few people were aware of the benefits that lemurs had on the forest habitat. The information gleaned from this survey has subsequently informed our conservation programs.

We will work to ensure that community members play an active role in our project implementation. Our ultimate aim is to work toward better fire management and sustainable livestock grazing to the benefit of both the forest and the communities. To that end, we will conduct stakeholder meetings, where we will request participation in this project. The stakeholder meetings will include:

- members from the three communities—particularly cattlemen who choose to graze their cattle in the management zone
- members of other communities who are not directly involved in our projects, but who also choose to graze their cattle in the management zone
- members of Planet Madagascar
- members of Madagascar National Parks.

During these stakeholder meetings we will discuss key challenges faced by all parties and will work on developing a livestock grazing strategy aiming to reduce the damage fires have on forest while maintaining livelihoods. Our project will not reduce community members' ability to graze their cattle. Rather, will work together to find new areas where they can do those activities—areas where it is not detrimental to the forest or the lemurs.

For example, as part of our ongoing project, we have met with some cattlemen where we had the opportunity to discuss grazing of cattle in the management zone. One recent discussion took place when an individual grazed his cattle near our forest restoration project, damaging some newly planted trees. After meeting with this individual to discuss what had happened and the impact that it had, we were able to come to an agreement that he would graze his cattle in a different location—away from the reforestation area. To that end, we did not restrict his access to grazing, but rather worked with him to find a place he could graze his cattle that would still be convenient. That meeting is an exemplar of how we will operate throughout this proposed project. To that end, we have planned stakeholder meetings throughout the project.

C. Criteria for eligibility of affected persons

Persons who may be affected include the three communities that are in the fire management zone as well as those communities outside the management zone who use or plan to use that zone to graze their cattle. Planet Madagascar has been working in this area since 2015 and has already conducted several livelihood surveys and stakeholder meetings to better understand who is or could be impacted by our projects.

From those discussions, we consider the following criteria in determining affected persons:

1. (a) The individuals live within one of the three core communities and use the land within or nearby the protected zone, OR (b) The individuals live outside of the core community but make use of the land within or nearby the protected zone.
2. Cattle grazing comprises a major component of their livelihood.

Throughout our stakeholder meetings, our project team will work closely with the community members to determine which households are impacted, how they are impacted, and to what extent they are impacted. These data will be collected and communicated to all participants. We will ensure that affected individuals are invited to meetings and education events and have the opportunity to voice any concerns that they have. Our aim is to actively work with communities at all stages of this project. We will discuss the existing regulations and how we can help facilitate those community members to follow them.

D. Measures to assist the affected persons

Our project is at its core a community-led initiative. We aim to work with community members to design a livestock grazing strategy that will not impact their livelihoods. We aim to facilitate productive discussions between our project team, the community members, and Madagascar National Parks.

Our projects employ local community members from the three core communities, many of whom will be employed by our projects and so will see a direct financial benefit. For example, members of the fire management team, individuals who assist with building firebreaks, and members of new income-generating projects, like beekeeping, will see that there is a direct benefit to working with us to finding new ways to graze cattle. Thus, our project will be addressing the root cause of forest destruction in the area—income security.

The beekeeping initiative will support 15 individuals from the three communities. Thus, there will be some community members who do not see a direct benefit from that component of this project. To ensure our projects are equitable and support a wide range of community members, we have two measures in place:

1. We will hire people who are not already participating in other elements of this project (e.g. fire management). In this way, more individuals within the communities will benefit financially from our projects.
2. We have designed the project such that those who are engaged in the beekeeping activities will allot a portion of their profits to fund additional individuals in the creation of hives, and other value add components for selling honey. In that way, there will be a trickle-down effect from those first 15 individuals to the broader community.

Our project is not designed to enforce the national park regulations, but to find a solution to uncontrolled fires. Our prior experience in the area has taught us that that solution is not preventing, but rather managing the level of fires that burn and the amount of grazing in an area. With that in mind, communicating the impact of fire and grazing and how we can work together to reduce the impact will help reduce tensions between national park authorities and community members. We will aid in finding more sustainable and less destructive ways for people to graze cattle, while also giving them an opportunity for a sustainable income by participating in our projects.

It is notable that the aim of our project is not to remove or reduce the ability of individuals to graze their cattle, but rather to provide alternative locations or methods to allow people to graze their cattle, but where it does not have a detrimental impact on the forest. With our project, we are looking to work with communities to find available and realistic alternatives. We do not have all the solutions at this stage—that will come as this project is implemented. However, these alternatives will involve discussion around new locations where cattle grazing could take place. These locations may vary, depending on season, and will have to be both identified and discussed with all stakeholders.

E. Conflict resolution and complaint mechanism.

We will communicate about the objectives of the project and mechanism for complaints through public announcements in Malagasy via radio broadcasts, and during stakeholder meetings. People who wish to file a complaint or discuss the livestock grazing strategy are encouraged to contact our local office who will work with them to find an equitable solution to any problems that they face. Persons with grievances with Planet Madagascar may contact Planet Madagascar directly in the following ways:

- Locally they can meet with Jean Paul Soa of Maevatanimbary village.
- They can also reach out to Planet Madagascar office in Antananarivo at +261 20 23 425 39

When Planet Madagascar receives a complaint, it will be reviewed by our Project Manager who will communicate with our In-Country Director. The complaint will be formally recorded, and the project manager will then reach out to the individual to request a meeting. During that meeting, the complaint will be discussed, and we will work with the individual to find a solution that works for all parties.

If individuals wish to discuss the project with parties outside of Planet Madagascar team members, they can contact any of the following:

- The CEPF regional implementation team (RIT):
Organization: Tany Meva Foundation
Online: [Website](#)
Phone: +261 20 22 403 99
Email: cepfritmadio@tanymeva.org
Mailing Address: Lot I A I 1 Bis Ambatobe Antananarivo 103, Madagascar
RIT Manager: Monique Randriatsivery
RIT Staff Languages: English, French, Malagasy
- CEPF Executive Director: cepfexecutive@conservation.org
- World Bank Office: madagascaralert@worldbank.org

We will share all grievances – and a proposed response – with the Regional Implementation Team and the CEPF Grant Director within 15 days. If the claimant is not satisfied following the response, they may submit the grievance directly to the CEPF Executive Director at cepfexecutive@conservation.org or by surface mail. If the claimant is not satisfied with the response from the CEPF Executive Director, they may submit the grievance to the World Bank at the local World Bank office.”

F. Implementation Arrangements

This project and its safeguard mechanisms will be implemented by the regional ground team, Planet Madagascar. Affected communities will have the opportunity to review this process framework and to participate in future drafts.

Prior to implementing the activities of this project, members of the community will have the opportunity to participate in stakeholder meetings and will be informed about the grievance process. Planet Madagascar team members, and particularly the Project Manager, will track any complaints that are put forth by stakeholders, and will work to find solutions. Any issues that cannot be resolved will be escalated to the in-country Executive Director of Planet Madagascar who will participate in a discussion with community members. Those issues will be communicated to the Planet Madagascar board of directors, including the Executive Director in Canada, and any necessary steps toward resolution will take place.

Our teams have developed detailed activities and outputs for this project, which will be monitored closely. That responsibility will reside primarily with the Project Manager and the in-Country director with support from the Executive Director. The Executive Director will travel to Madagascar at least once each year, where he will do a full overview of the project.

When this project is finished, Planet Madagascar will engage in a final evaluation and report on the status of each of our planned activities and outcomes. This final evaluation will be communicated with local community stakeholders.