



FINAL EVALUATION OF THE HOLISTIC FOREST CONSERVATION PROJECT (PHCF)

Ref.
57

Expert(s)	Country	Volume	Amount* (€)	Beneficiary	Funding	Start date	End date	Partner(s)	Reference
Olivier Bouyer	Madagascar	14	15,500 <i>*For the referred expert, within ONFI</i>	Air France	Air France	Sept. 2011	Oct. 2011	n/a	picaussade@airfrance.fr Mob:+33 6 07 78 15 24

Detailed description of the project	Services provided
<p>In early 2008, while the REDD+ mechanism was in its infancy, Air France undertook the challenge of developing an ambitious REDD+ project covering 500,000 ha of both wet (east side of Madagascar) and dry (west side) forest in Madagascar: the Holistic Forest Conservation Project (<i>Projet Holistique De Conservation Des Forêts</i> or PHCF).</p> <p>This three-year project implemented by WWF Madagascar and Good Planet, mobilised more than 50 field officers and was operational along four strategic lines: (i) Creation of New Protected Areas (<i>Nouvelles Aires Protégées</i> or NAPs), (ii) Support for Income-Generating Activities (<i>Activités Génératrices De Revenus</i> or AGRs), (iii) Transfer of Natural Resource Management (<i>Transfert De Gestion Des Ressources Naturelles</i> or TGRN) to the village communities (iv) Establishment of plantations for energy purposes. The purpose of the project was “to reduce the rate of forest loss in Madagascar due to the increase of slash-and-burn agriculture through conservation and management transfers and to implement carbon removal activities through the restoration of forest landscapes”.</p> <p>In the first quarter of 2012, this project was due to expire and Air France, in the framework of the implementation of its climate plan, wanted (i) to have an independent analysis of the implementation of the first phase, and (ii) to receive recommendations for the development of a 2nd phase.</p> <p>The mission was therefore aimed at evaluating the results of the PHCF in a comprehensive manner within a very short time with regard to its size, by conducting interviews with the Malagasy government (central and local), the project managers and agents, the village communities, and then triangulating these interviews by targeted field visits.</p>	<p>Following the usual and logical evaluation approach (logical framework approach), strategic and organisational analyses were carried out on the following elements: logical framework, result indicators, activity monitoring system, integration into the national REDD+ strategy, management of the project staff, awareness programs among the village communities. Economic and technical analyses were then carried out in order to assess the effectiveness, efficiency, resilience and sustainability of project activities, namely: the creation of NAPs, promotion of AGRs, TGRN, and reforestation for energy purposes, but also the restoration of natural forests and the establishment of a REDD+ project.</p> <p>At the end of the analysis phase of the success/failure of PHCF1, specific recommendations were made concerning: 1/ Redefinition of the monitoring system (introduction of technical and economic indicators, biodiversity monitoring, creation of a centralized GIS); 2/ Inclusion in the national REDD+ strategy (based on the progress made in terms of strategic options, land and carbon rights, REDD+ reference emissions levels, forest carbon measuring system); 3/ Strengthening of the grassroots organisations (selection of sustainable AGRs, internal capacity building of these communities, easing of the management plans); 4/ Support for dialogue between the State and civilian society (clarification of the NAP and TGRN statutes, and the exercise of forest police powers, land tenure rights); 5/ Validation of a REDD+ project (clarification of carbon ownership rights).</p> <p>At the global level, three issues to be addressed by the PHCF2 were identified, in order of priority: (i) to strengthen the village communities to sustain TGRN and NAP, (ii) to support dialogue between the State and civilian society for securing the laws relating to NAP, TGRN and reforestation, and (iii) to submit a REDD+ project to value the carbon gains.</p>