

RESULTS SUMMARY

Changes in Partnerships and Collaboration that Support People's rights

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PROJECT	Title: Triple Benefit Programme
	Partner: WWF Madagascar, Polisin'Ala and KASTI
	Country: Madagascar
	Period: 2022 – 2025

CHANGE

In the Amoron'i Onilahy Protected Area (AOPA) in Madagascar, new partnerships and collaborations have advanced environmental and livelihood rights of local communities by strengthening protection of critical ecosystems on which they rely. Drivers of forest degradation in the AOPA emanate from areas not covered by the patrollers of the seven "comanager" communities (Polisin'Ala). Under the TBP, Polisin'Ala now mentor community patrollers (KASTI) from outside their jurisdictions to deter drivers of degradation. Threats to the AOPA have reduced as a result.

CONTEXT

In line with human rights-based approaches, safeguarding critical natural resources for local communities promotes communities' rights to participation in environmental governance, access to natural resources, and protection from environmental harm. The tripartite management of the AOPA involves WWF, the union of municipalities (OPCI OHEMIHA) and seven community groups that each enforce protection in their parcel of land. Protection of the rest of the PA is meant to be upheld by the KASTI with support from OPCI. While the Polisin'Ala have effectively addressed drivers of degradation in their jurisdictions, there has been little support to the KASTI, and so encroachment and degradation has continued in these areas.

CONTRIBUTION

The establishment of partnership and collaboration between the Polisin'Ala and KASTI is a response to recommendations of the midterm review (MTR), carried out in June 2024. This inclusive partnership directly supports community rights to participate in environmental stewardship and decision-making processes. It also improves access to information and resources that are vital for equitable environmental governance. 28 KASTI patrollers were invited to participate in training events for Polisin'Ala; they were provided with SMART monitoring equipment; and mentored by the Polisin'Ala. In combination with awareness raising on hazards that threaten ecosystem health (such as slash and burn, charcoal production, and unsafe fire practices) drivers of degradation are now addressed more effectively.

IMAGES

Training of 40 Polisin'Ala in Smart Tools to improve patrol data collection and analysis.
@Ratvonamana Yedidya

Women and men from KASTI teams participated in SMART training, reflecting an inclusive approach to capacity building in environmental monitoring.
@Ratvonamana Yedidya

[See next page for more details](#) 

ADDITIONAL INFORMATION

ACTIVITIES

The TBP project in Madagascar addresses societal challenges among local communities in the AOPA, including food and water security, disaster risk, and climate change impacts. Through protection and restoration of critical forest and freshwater ecosystems using Nature-based Solutions, communities are better protected from the effects of climate change, including increasingly erratic weather patterns. The risk of inundation of market gardens, for example, causes food insecurity during the cyclone season. This risk is aggravated if the watershed and forest ecosystems' natural protections are hampered. Access to forest resources is also an essential lifeline for communities during dry season. Unsafe fire practices that cause forest fires undermine this lifeline. It is therefore essential that the integrity of ecosystems throughout the AOPA is safeguarded through coordinated and inclusive patrolling efforts. Collaboration and partnership between the two community-based patroller corps, KASTI and Polisin'Ala, has enabled more comprehensive and effective deterrence of threats.

LESSONS

The protection status of the AOPA was declared on April 28, 2015. At the ten-year anniversary of the PA, the results of the communities' efforts in the seven co-manager villages were clear. Water sources that had dried up, reappeared; gallery-forest regenerated; and biodiversity grew – including the return of lemurs which are important seed dispersers. Remote sensing data, monitored through the TBP, however, revealed that many hectares of forest were lost every year in the areas outside of the co-managers' jurisdictions. Findings during the MTR pointed out that, while the intention was for these areas to be patrolled by KASTI with government support, they were in fact dormant as the OPCI had no resources to support them. This led the project team to conclude that effective protection could only be achieved if support to patrolling was inclusive of the KASTI. Addressing structural inequalities in resource access and governance capacities through support to KASTI was not only a logistical decision but a step towards ensuring equitable recognition of all communities' rights and responsibilities in PA management. Steps to increase partnership and collaboration between the KASTI and Polisin'Ala were taken in response to this lesson learnt.

EVIDENCE

The AOPA patrol system has been significantly strengthened through more comprehensive mobilisation of patrollers. Overall, in the latter half of 2024, patrol days were increased to 10 days per month, the KASTI received appropriate patrolling equipment, and regular technical supervision was given. KASTI patrollers, supported by OPCI OHEMIHA, collectively committed 172 patrol days; amounting to 4,816 person-days and covering 1,055.81 km in areas previously not patrolled. This enhanced PA monitoring and enforcement has led to better territorial coverage, faster detection of infractions, and stronger coordination with local authorities such as village presidents, CBOs, and members of the OPCI OHEMIHA across 15 municipalities. Already in the first half of 2025, remote sensing data showed clear improvement with zero ha. of deforestation and only six fire incidents detected. In comparison, 56.95 ha. deforestation was reported in the same timeframe in 2024 (prior to the activation of the KASTI). These results highlight the positive impact of the efforts made to strengthen the patrol system of the AOPA.

DOMAINS

Development strategy priorities:

Insert strategy priority

Changes in the lives of people facing poverty, marginalisation or vulnerability

-

Changes in laws, policies and practices that affect people's rights

-

Changes in the capacity of organisations and communities to support rights

x

Changes in partnerships and collaborations that support people's rights

-

Changes in participation of groups facing poverty, marginalisation or vulnerability

-

Changes in local leadership of development and humanitarian work

-

GUIDANCE NOTE

This format consists of two overall sections: on page one, the results summary communicates results to an external audience using a brief summary of what has been achieved; while page two provides an opportunity to explain the background and evidence behind the claims made as part of the summary.

Page 1: Results summary

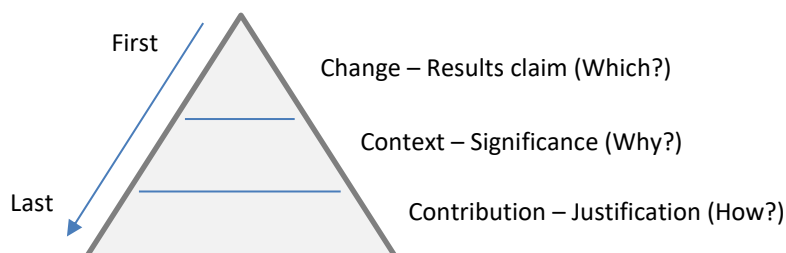
The results summary should outline of the overall change. This should be phrased in a clear and concise manner, focusing on the benefits for target groups or communities, and preferably start out by stating the overall key message as a one-line statement. It is thus important to prioritise what the key message should be and not attempt to describe every possible change that may have occurred.

Note that case studies should not describe all of the activities carried out during the implementation. Instead, it should focus on one or two key messages to be highlighted – which may also span several projects – and only outline activities to backup contributions to the highlighted change.

This can be illustrated as a “reverse funnel.” First, the “change” section introduces the overall results claim, which answers the “which.” Note that this is done before any details have been provided. Second, the “context” section outlines the problem being addressed by the project and the significance of the change. For example, by explaining “why” it benefits target groups or communities.

Finally, and lastly, the “contribution” section should provide examples to justify for “how” the intervention contributed to realising change. Note that this should focus on the plausible linkage between the change and intervention rather than describing details from activities. It is often useful to think of this as a reverse theory-of-change, i.e. “After we did X, then Y occurred, because of Z.”

Figure 1:
Reverse funnel for communication



Page 2: Additional information

The second page should provide background and evidence for project's contribution to change. It can also address technical issues that do not fit in the results summary. The section consists of the following sections:

- **Activities:** Whereas the “contribution” section on page one provides a brief summary of the project contributions to change, the “activities” section allows for more detail on the project design, organisation and underlying activities in support of the contributions made.
- **Lessons:** Describes lessons learned through the implementation. These should relate to the results claim or alternatively the project(s) as a whole. Please consider (1) novelty – i.e. whether the change represents something new – and (2) the potential to scale and/or build on lessons going ahead.
- **Evidence:** A narrative comparison between results claims and the underlying evidence. It should answer “X led to Y, because of Z,” although it does not need to be phrased this way. It is useful to include references to a few selected documents for further details. Please see guidelines for more.
- **Domains and development strategy:** Describes contributions to defined domains and the Danish development strategy. Please consider limiting the number of domains to a few selected ones.