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A new marine protected area is in sight in the Extreme South

Madagascar is home to many areas with abundant natural resources with a high endemism rate. The Extreme South of Madagascar is one of them, where many scientists gathered from October 23 to 25, 2019 at Ambovombe as part of the creation of a new marine protected area. These scientists – marine biologists, oceanographers, marine conservation planner, specialists in fisheries who already worked in the area – presented the results of their researches while highlighting the biological characteristics of the concerned marine resources, the ecological conditions, as well as the threats to these resources, and the management and conservation measures. The workshop allowed these scientists to consolidate the bioecological, oceanographic, and marine data from the different scientific researches which will all be necessary to

the creation of the management plan of the future marine protected area of the Extreme South of Madagascar.



“Lemurs, national heritage, friends to protect”



The sixth edition of the World Festival of Lemurs or Dihin'ny Varika maneran-tany took place under this theme. Unlike previous editions, scientific discussion sessions were held before the usual carnival organized by

GERP. In addition to the capital, other cities such as Ranomafana and Andapa celebrated these emblematic species. The celebration in the capital brought together various conservation organizations including WCS, MNP, WWF, Fanamby, Tany Meva and the various ministries, Club Vintsy and even the Makis of Madagascar, the national rugby team. This year, the government, through the General Director of Sustainable Development, announced in its speech that it is ready to work with organizations to preserve lemurs and their habitat. The Director strengthened that the government, researchers and local communities together form the tripod that can ensure the protection of these species. It should be noted that to date, 105 of the 112 lemur species in Madagascar are threatened with extinction.

A sustainable structure for the management and conservation of its marine resources is implemented



Stakeholders that work in the western and north-western zone of Nosy Be met to establish a Task Force to manage and conserve the marine corridor of the area or Tandavandriani Nosy Be or CTTN (Newsletter n°8) in July

2019. And the task Team met for the first time to strengthen this management and conservation system in Nosy Be on November 4 and 5.

It brought together CTTN members (WCS, CNRO, CLB, APMF, SRPA Nosy Be, Commune of Nosy Be, FUP BATAN, Lémurialand, ORTB, Federation of fishers of Nosy Be, the Nosy Be cantonment, the prefecture of Nosy Be, the media, and the police) and advisory members (DRAEP, Diana Region, DREDD Diana, Regional Direction of Tourism of Diana) as well as the MEDD and the MAEP.

This workshop enabled all these actors to set up a sustainable structure for the management and conservation of marine resources in the western and north-western marine corridor of Nosy Be. Participants also identified the type of governance and management of these resources and set up a communication system for the animation and coordination of CTTN activities.

The cohabitation between small-scale and industrial fishermen is improved



An integrated management approach for Antongil Bay. This is what we have been doing for more than a decade to address the progressive degradation of the marine

environment and the decline in fish production in the bay. During a meeting in Fénériver Est, the workshop to develop a charter of responsibility between community stakeholders and the private sector, including industrial fishers, was held on November 19 and 20. It should be noted that one of the major challenges raised in the implementation of the Antongil Bay Fisheries Management Plan is the coexistence between small-scale and industrial fishers. This workshop brought together and strengthened the synergy between these stakeholders. Also considered were clarification on targets and fishing areas, clarification on the fishing schedule and identification of consensual measures in relation to the overlapping of certain fishing areas.

WCS participated in the potting of young plants

WCS participated in the potting of young plants at the Soamandrakizay nursery at the end of November 2019. This activity – as part of the government's 2020 reforestation campaign – was organized by the Ministry of Environment and Sustainable Development. The forecast for this campaign is to produce eight million seedlings for the Analamanga region. A part of the WCS Madagascar team has strongly contributed in this initiative. This activity involved representatives of the government, DREDD Analamanga, students and communities, and NGO partners, all working in the field of conservation. More than 600 people were mobilized during this session where everyone was able to plug up 100 plants that will be ready for transplanting in January 2020.



Contact:

Lovy Rasolofomanana - Country Director
Wildlife Conservation Society
Villa Ifanomezantsoa
Près Lot II A 78 D Soavimbahoaka Po Box 8500
Antananarivo 101 - Madagascar
Tel: (261-20) 22-597-89
Fax: (261-20) 22-529-76
e-mail: wcsmad@wcsmad.org