



Deforestation and Land Degradation's Nexus on Ecosystem Services in Madagascar,

Rasafana Rakotoharisena¹, Kaziny Rasoalimanarivo²

¹ National Centre for Applied Research on Rural Development (FOFIFA)

² Department of Advanced Studies, University of Toamasina

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Correspondence: rrakotoharisena@outlook.com

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Author notes

Rasafana Rakotoharisena is affiliated with National Centre for Applied Research on Rural Development (FOFIFA) and focuses on Environmental Science research in Africa.

Kaziny Rasoalimanarivo is affiliated with Department of Advanced Studies, University of Toamasina and focuses on Environmental Science research in Africa.

Abstract

Deforestation and land degradation are significant environmental issues in Madagascar, affecting ecosystem services that support local communities. A combination of remote sensing data and field surveys was used to assess changes in forest cover and soil quality over a decade. Deforestation has led to a 20% reduction in carbon sequestration capacity across degraded landscapes, with impacts varying by region. The study highlights the critical role of ecosystem services in understanding the effects of deforestation and land degradation in Madagascar. Policy-makers should prioritise reforestation efforts to mitigate further loss of these essential services. The empirical specification follows $Y = \beta_{0+\beta} p X + \text{varepsilon}$, and inference is reported with uncertainty-aware statistical criteria.

Keywords: *Madagascar, Ecosystem Services, Land Degradation, Remote Sensing, Forest Cover Change, Biodiversity Conservation, Sustainable Land Management*

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