



Tree Survival and Community Engagement in Madagascar's Rainforests: A Two-Year Assessment of Community-Based Forest Management Projects

Nathalie Randriamampiona^{1,2}, Antony Rakotoharisoa³

¹ University of Mahajanga

² University of Antananarivo

³ Department of Research, University of Mahajanga

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Correspondence: nrndriamampiona@aol.com

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Author notes

Nathalie Randriamampiona is affiliated with University of Mahajanga and focuses on Business research in Africa. Antony Rakotoharisoa is affiliated with Department of Research, University of Mahajanga and focuses on Business research in Africa.

Abstract

Madagascar's rainforests are under threat from deforestation and degradation. Community-based forest management projects have been implemented to mitigate these issues. Qualitative data collection through interviews, focus groups, and document review were used to evaluate project outcomes and stakeholder perceptions. Tree survival rates varied significantly across different projects (ranging from 40% to 75%), with community engagement metrics indicating high levels of participation in activities such as reforestation efforts and monitoring programmes. Themes emerged around the importance of local knowledge integration, leadership training, and supportive policies. While some projects showed promising results, others struggled due to inadequate support systems and lack of stakeholder buy-in, highlighting the need for tailored interventions based on community needs. Implementing culturally sensitive approaches, strengthening governance structures, and ensuring consistent policy frameworks are recommended to enhance project sustainability and success.

Keywords: *Madagascar, Geographic Focus, Community Participation, Empowerment Studies, Qualitative Research, Ethnography, Forest Conservation*

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