
SOS
KEEP
NATURE
STANDING
IUCN
SOS
LEMURS
English



Photo: Houdin&Palanque

Nested within the International Union for Conservation of Nature (IUCN), IUCN Save Our Species (SOS) is a grant-making programme that supports science-based conservation action on the ground to prevent the extinction of animals, plants and fungi. We focus our efforts where they will have the biggest impact by funding frontline conservation organisations across the world who have unique knowledge of their region and their local biodiversity.

We never look at species in isolation. All IUCN Save Our Species projects not only aim to protect threatened species, but also to preserve their habitats, and improve the livelihoods of the people who depend on them. To protect threatened species with sustainable, long-term results, all our projects are structured around a three-legged approach to conservation that focuses on Species, Habitat and People.

As a global union of governments, NGOs, local authorities, Indigenous Peoples and local communities' organisations, and scientific commissions, we mobilise IUCN's networks to scale effective conservation action through capacity building and knowledge development.

MADAGASCAR IS ONE OF THE WORLD'S BIODIVERSITY HOTSPOTS, WITH A RICH DIVERSITY OF PRIMATE SPECIES.

Unfortunately, according to the IUCN Red List of Threatened Species™, 94% of all 112 known lemur species are threatened with extinction, and almost a third (31%) are now Critically Endangered – just one step away from extinction. The main threats to lemurs include habitat destruction caused by slash-and-burn agriculture, illegal logging and mining, wildfires exacerbated by climate change, as well as hunting for food and the pet trade. Combined, these pressures have made lemurs one of the most threatened mammal groups on Earth.

94% OF ALL 112

KNOWN LEMUR SPECIES ARE THREATENED WITH EXTINCTION

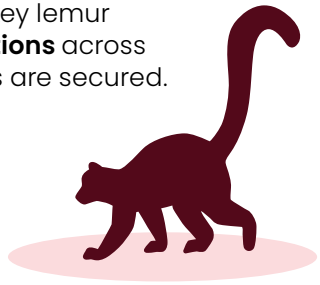


Photo: Houdin&Palanque
Photo below: ICTE

Launched in 2017, SOS Lemurs aims to support the efforts of civil society organisations in lemur conservation, particularly through the implementation of the IUCN/Species Survival Commission Lemur Conservation Strategy. Expected to run until 2029, it is the only initiative dedicated to lemur conservation in the world.

Through small, medium and large grants, SOS Lemurs aims to:

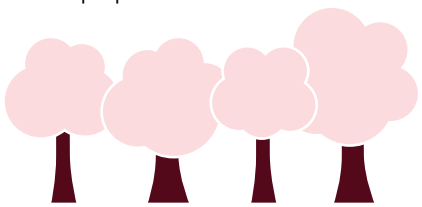
Ensure key lemur **populations** across key sites are secured.



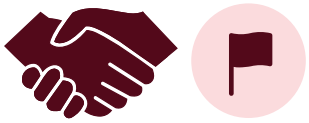
Raise **awareness** on the fragile status of threatened lemurs in Madagascar.



Preserve and restore suitable **habitats** and habitat connectivity for healthy lemur populations.



Help local conservation actors/ NGOs develop their long-term **development goals** through knowledge acquisition, knowledge transfer, targeted capacity-building and experience sharing.



Empower **communities** with skills and livelihood options to reduce dependence on natural resources and improve living conditions in and around priority sites.



Support **research** efforts and enhance expertise and skills among local scientists to conduct research in lemur ecology and conservation.

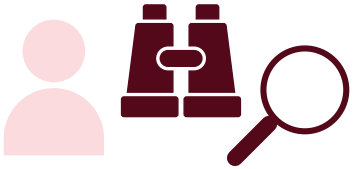




Photo: Ny Tanintsika

FROM FOUNDATION TO SCALE

SOS Lemurs is being implemented in two phases, building on more than a decade of conservation action and partnerships in Madagascar.

PHASE I (2017-2023): BUILDING A STRONG FOUNDATION

Over six and a half years, SOS Lemurs supported **49 projects** contributing to the conservation of **63 lemur species**.
The programme helped strengthen species protection, restore and improve critical forest habitats, support local communities and build the capacity of conservation organisations across Madagascar.

SUPPORTING MALAGASY SCIENTISTS AND CONSERVATIONISTS

SOS Lemurs Phase II supports locally led research on lemur ecology, behaviour and conservation. Through the **Lemur Research Action Fund (LRAF)**, managed by Re:wild, the small grants programme aims to fund 60 projects with grants of up to CHF 5,000, enabling early-career Malagasy researchers to lead research and strengthen local scientific expertise.

PHASE II (2023-2029): SCALING UP IMPACT

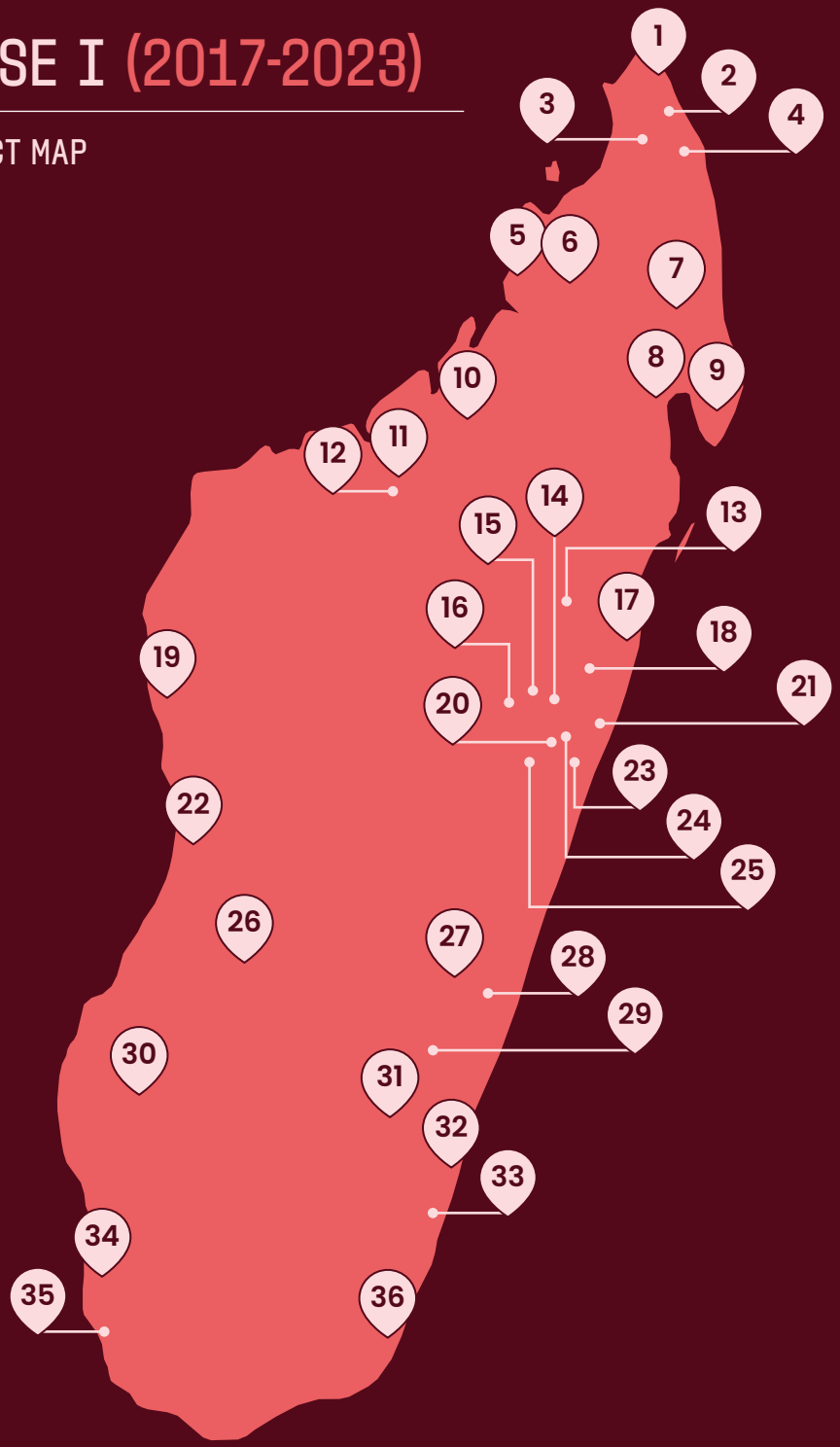
Phase II builds on these achievements with a strengthened focus on long-term, locally led conservation. The current portfolio includes **25 projects, 11 Large Grants and 14 Medium Grants, working across 27 sites and targeting around 60 lemur species**. Through the programme, IUCN supports civil society organisations implementing projects to protect and restore lemur habitats, strengthen local conservation capacity and work with communities and local authorities to address threats and sustain conservation gains over time.



Photo: Jean-Christophe Vié

PHASE I (2017-2023)

PROJECT MAP



49 PROJECTS SUPPORTED

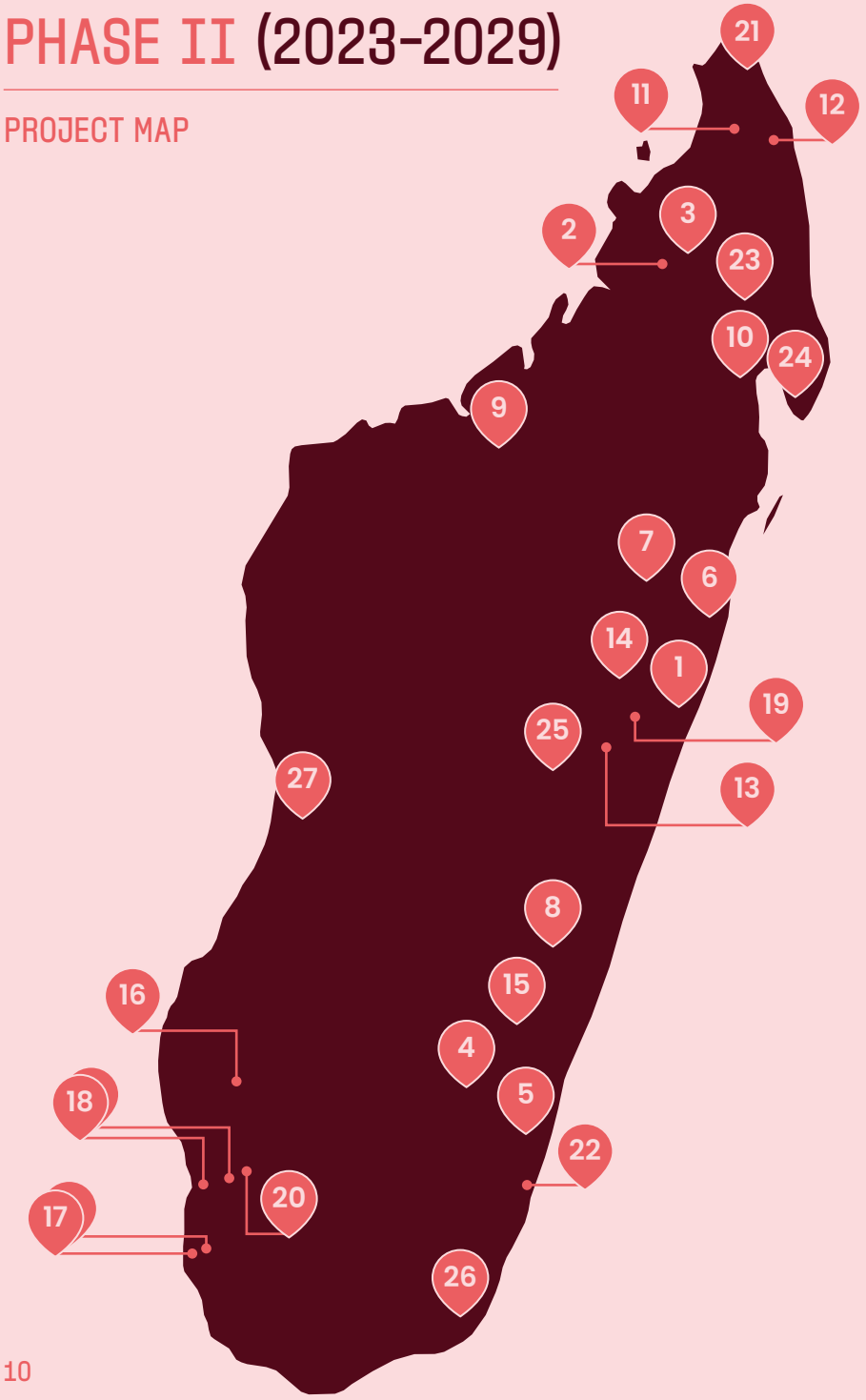
36 PRIORITY SITES IN MADAGASCAR

CONTRIBUTING TO THE PROTECTION OF **63** LEMUR SPECIES

1. Montagne des Français
2. Analamerana Protected Area
3. Andrafiamena-Andavakoera Protected Area
4. Loky Manambato Protected Area
5. Sahamalaza-Iles Radama National Park
6. Bemanevika and Mahimborondroa Protected Areas
7. Complex Ambohimirahavavy Marivorahona Protected Area - COMATSA
8. Makira Natural Park
9. Masoala National Park
10. Bongolava Forest Corridor Protected Area
11. Ankarafantsika National Park
12. Maevatanana-Ambato-Boeny Forests
13. Lake Alaotra Protected Area
14. Ankeniheny-Zahamena Corridor (CAZ)/West
15. Torotorofotsy Region
16. Anjozorobe Angavo Protected Area
17. Betampona
18. Ankeniheny-Zahamena Corridor (CAZ)
19. Tsimembo Manambolomaty Protected Area/ Mandrozo
20. Maromizaha Protected Area
21. Andriantantely Lowland Rainforest
22. Menabe Antimena Protected Area
23. Mahatsara Forest
24. Maromizaha Protected Area
25. Mangabe
26. Massif Makay
27. Ranomafana National Park and surroundings
28. Kianjavato
29. Ambositra-Vondrozo Forest Corridor
30. Analavelona Sacred Forest
31. Lost Forest of Ivohiboro
32. Manombo Special Reserve
33. Ankarabolava-Agnakatrika Forest
34. Tsimanampesotse National Park and Amoron'iOnilahy Protected Area
35. Mahafaly Plateau and Lavavolo
36. Tsitongambarika Protected Area

PHASE II (2023-2029)

PROJECT MAP



25 PROJECTS SUPPORTED

27 PRIORITY SITES IN MADAGASCAR

CONTRIBUTING TO THE PROTECTION OF **60** LEMUR SPECIES

11 LARGE GRANTS & **14** MEDIUM GRANTS

1. Andriantantely Protected Area
2. Bemanevika Protected Area
3. Mahimborondro Protected Area
4. Ivohiboro New Protected Area
5. Efatsy Manombo Classified Forest
6. Betampona Strict Nature Reserve
7. Lake Alaotra Protected Area
8. Bamboo Lemur Site, Tsaratanana
9. Ankarafantsika National Park
10. Makira Natural Park
11. Andrafiamena-Andavakoera Protected Area
12. Loky Manambato Protected Area
13. Mangabe Protected Area
14. Ecovision Reserve
15. Ambositra-Vondrozo Forest Corridor / COFAV
16. Analavelona Protected Area
17. Tsimanampesotse National Park and surrounding areas
18. Amoron'i Onilahy Protected area and surrounding areas
19. Mahatsara
20. Bezà-Mahafaly
21. Montagne des Français
22. Ankarabolava-Agnakatrika Protected Area
23. Anjanaharibe-Sud Special Reserve
24. Masoala National Park
25. Tsinjoarivo-Ambalaomby Protected Area
26. Andohahela National Park
27. Kirindy Forest

KEEP NATURE STANDING

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The SOS Lemurs conservation initiative is made possible through the generous support of the Fondation Hans Wilsdorf.

Cover photo: Marco Campera