Workstream 5.1: Multi-stakeholder future visioning - Sample

LEG regional training workshop on national adaptation plans (NAPs)

Objective of the exercise

- Learn how to envision a future goal for a system over the medium- and long-term
- Learn how to work backwards to arrive at that goal, by identifying necessary steps and milestones over time (including enabling policies)
- Use the vision to inform selection of criteria to be used in choosing and ranking adaptation options (the criteria will be used in the next exercise)

Vision for Lemurs

- Many lemur species are on the very brink of extinction.
- Ninety-one per cent of all lemur taxa (species and subspecies) are now classified as Critically Endangered, Endangered, or Vulnerable on the IUCN Red List of Threatened Species.
- This probably makes lemurs the most threatened group of mammals on Earth.
- We know what is needed to prevent lemur extinctions, yet we have a very short window of time to accomplish this. Given the very high and imminent risk of extinction faced by all lemurs, we must act now.
- (Source: Lemurs or Madagascar, IUCN 2013)

Setting

- Many protected areas throughout the country with critically endangered, endangered, and vulnerable species

- Actions to manage and protect the lemurs and their habitat are place/site-specific for each reserve – depending on exact land cover, surrounding land uses, etc

- Next slides show maps of distribution and an example of one of many protected areas

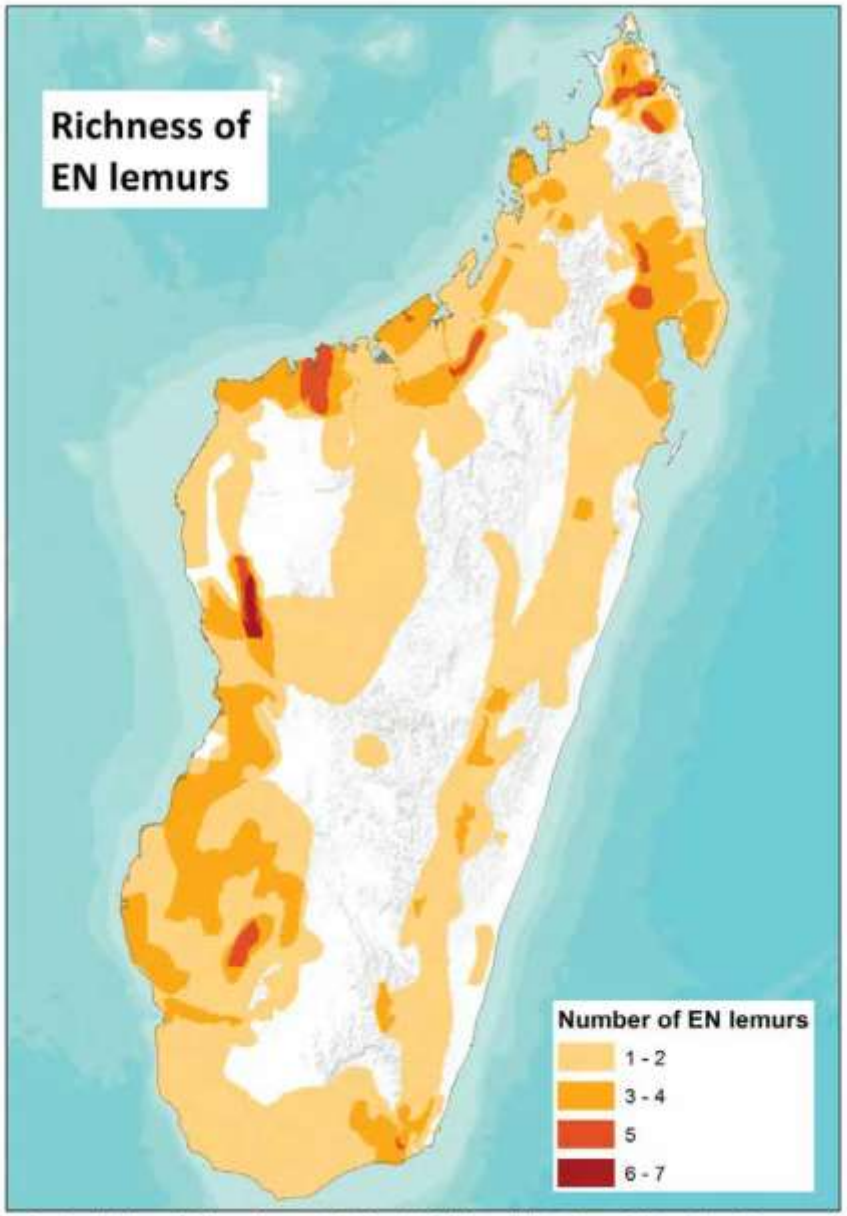

Fig. 2: Distribution and richness of Endangered lemurs (results from 2012 Red List workshop). (Source: Federica Chiozza, Department of Biology and Biotechnology, Sapienza Università di Roma)

Makira

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Makira's forests cover 372,470 ha and lie within the Antongil Bay landscape in north-east Madagascar. They represent one of the largest expanses of humid forest left in the biologically rich eastern rainforest biome of the island. The forests of Makira are a key, intact biodiversity stronghold and a vital bridge maintaining long-term connectivity and altitudinal gradient protection across protected areas in the north-eastern region. These protected areas include Anjanaharibe-Sud Special Reserve and Marojejy National Park to the north; Masoala National Park to the east; and Mananara-nord National Park.

The Makira Forest Protected Area Project, hereafter referred to as the Makira Project, is located 40 km west of the town of

Indri (*Indri indri*), Critically Endangered. (Photo: Russell A. Mittermeier)

Maroantsetra, within the following boundaries: 14°41'40.7" S – 15°51'40.8" S, 48°58'20.18" E – 50°1'3.7" E. The Makira Project falls within three regions (Analanjirofo, Sava and Sofia) and five districts (Maroantsetra, Antalaha, Andapa, Befandriana Nord and Mandritsara). The Makira Project also involves 21 communes and 63 Fokontany.

The main objective of the Makira Project is to ensure the conservation of the biodiversity and the sustainable use of natural resources in the north-eastern part of Madagascar through engagement with the local population. The conservation of biodiversity thus goes hand in hand with the development of local communities.

About 97% of the population of the Makira region consists of farmers (Ramanandriana, 2004). Socio-economic survey results concluded that households are not able to meet their subsistence needs if they do not combine subsistence agriculture with cash crops (Holmes, 2007). Among the most encountered threats to the biodiversity of Makira's forests are forest clearing for rice cultivation, bush and forest fires, hunting for bushmeat, small-scale selective illegal logging, and mining. Subsistence and economic pressures are principal drivers of these threats. Continued bushmeat hunting in the absence of management and livelihood alternatives will reduce the natural populations of targeted species, such as the diurnal lemur species endemic to Makira, by up to 60% (Golden, 2009).

For this reason, the Wildlife Conservation Society (WCS) has promoted alternative agricultural methods such as intensive

The vision of this Lemur Conservation Strategy (IUCN 2013) is to:

- **Prevent the extinction** of all lemur species within the next decade and ensure their long-term survival by **reversing the current decline of populations and habitats**

- Implement immediate conservation action that **directly supports sustainable development and improves the livelihoods in local commu**nities, while affirming respect for human rights

- Increase and **share the scientific and traditional knowledge** critical for conservation

- **Promote lemurs as a unique natural and cultural heritage for Madagascar and the world**

Major threats/drivers of change

- Habitat loss due to forest loss due to slash and burn subsistence agriculture, mining and other human land uses
- Illegal poaching for meat
- Fragmentation of habitat leading to in-breeding thus weakening the biological diversity of the Lemurs

Vision for 30 years from now

- Lemurs thriving and fully protected from extinction
- Local communities full partners of the conservation efforts and benefiting from tourism and conservation efforts to avoid any actions that would hinder lemur conservation (participatory approach and benefit-sharing)
- Area of protected areas expanded to enable all species of lemur to thrive (by returning farm land to natural forest)
- Habitat well connected to ensure interaction amongst populations of lemur to avoid in-breeding

Backcasting: milestones and required steps over time to achieve the vision in 30 years

- Pass laws to re-zone agricultural land to protected areas and relocate farmers
- Increase rural agricultural production to reduce pressure on forest conversion to more farmland
- Develop land use plans that create and maintain corridors to connect current protected areas and avoid pressures on the habitat quality
- Study how habitat will be affected by climate change and implement measures to ensure their adjust accordingly