

WHV – Unite for Rainforest

Rainforests of the Atsinanana, Madagascar

● Natural property inscribed on the List of World Heritage in Danger since 2010

11/09/2016 - 28/09/2016



The Rainforests of the Atsinanana comprise six national parks distributed along the eastern part of the island. These relict forests are critically important for maintaining ongoing ecological processes necessary for the survival of Madagascar's unique biodiversity, which reflects the island's geological history. Having completed its separation from all other land masses more than 60 million years ago, Madagascar's plant and animal life evolved in isolation. The rainforests are inscribed for their importance to both ecological and biological processes as well as their biodiversity and the threatened species they support such as primates and lemurs.



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Project objectives: The site has faced severe degradation in recent years due to incessant deforestation, illegal exploitation of rose wood, wildfires, and poaching. In this context, the main objective of the project is to contribute to the sustainable development and encourage local community to be involved in the preservation of the site. It also aims in particular at raising awareness among them and implementing practical activities on preservation and empowering young people and local communities in natural resources management. The project consequentially aims to contribute to remove the property from the List of World Heritage in Danger.

Project activities: During the action camp, the volunteers will mainly be involved in maintenance work such as cleaning the entrance of the site and sorting the waste. They will also be involved in educational programmes and events with local communities such as organising workshops in order to deepen their understanding of the site and its preservation; sharing alternative techniques for the stoves and vegetable garden; and organising an exhibition about the World Heritage sites. The volunteers will support the training of local guides as well for the sustainable tourism. Finally, they will hold the educational and cultural competitions and games related to the environment and the preservation of the site.

Partners: Malagasy National Commission for UNESCO, the Madagascar National Park, and the regional Direction of the Environment, Ecology, Sea and Forests.

Young Actives for Sustainable Development Madagascar (YA4SD Madagascar)

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