

**SPATIAL MONITORING AND REPORTING TOOL (SMART):
MADAGASCAR'S NATIONAL LAW ENFORCEMENT
MONITORING TOOL**



PRESENTATION

The Spatial Monitoring And Reporting Tool (SMART) [<http://www.smartconservationsoftware.org>] is a key part of any successful protected area law enforcement and threat monitoring (LEM) system. This tool has the ability to improve the effectiveness of wildlife law enforcement patrols and site-based conservation activities.

SMART software makes it possible to collect, store, communicate, and analyze ranger-collected data on illegal activities that help to understand where control and surveillance efforts should be focused. It can also aid in evaluating ranger performance.

Yet, SMART is much more than a data collection tool: it is a suite of best practices to help protected area and wildlife managers to promote good natural resource governance. Spatial and temporal information on human activities and law enforcement efforts generated from SMART enables protected area management decisions and planning to be based upon up-to-date data, allowing managers to respond in a targeted and proactive manner to new threats as they arise.

OUR APPROACH

- Training of Trainers to build capacity and independence of as many SMART users in parks as possible
- Exchange and sharing of experience in national and international forums for SMART users to improve skills and solve eventual problems
- Involving local communities and local civil society organizations in combatting illegal activities and the application of local social rules known as Dina by training them in the use of SMART.





IMPLEMENTATION OF SMART

In 2013 through the USAID-funded program “Preserving Madagascar’s Natural Resource”, WCS initiated training on the use of SMART throughout Madagascar, with a focus on nine high-risk terrestrial protected areas: Makira and Andasibe Mantadia parks, the reserve of Tsaratanana, and the six parks that comprise the Rainforests of Atsinanana World Heritage Site, namely Masoala, Marojejy-Anjanaharibe Sud, Zahamena, Ranomafana, Andringitra, and Andohahela National Parks.

Following this successful piloting:

- ✓ Since 2013, over two hundred SMART users, mainly park and community forest patrollers, including 78 community association members, 90 park agents, and 12 Focal Points, have been trained.
- ✓ SMART was adopted in 2016 by Madagascar National Parks and the Ministry of Environment, Ecology and Forests as the national law enforcement monitoring tool for Madagascar making the country one of 10 countries globally that have adopted the tool as the national standard for law enforcement monitoring.
- ✓ SMART is currently implemented in numerous terrestrial and marine protected areas throughout the country, including the 43 protected areas within the Madagascar National Parks network (2,339,420 hectares of terrestrial areas and 269,730 hectares of marine areas) and other protected areas such as Makira Natural Park, Marojejy- Anjanaharibe Sud-Tsaratanàna Corridor, and Ankeniheny-Zahamena Corridor (1.3 million hectares).

Program financial partners

- USAID
- U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service (USFWS)
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- Madagascar Biodiversity Fund (FAPBM)
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