











Leveraging Spatial Data for Research and Policy Dialogue: The Case of Nature Conservation Evaluation in Madagascar

BETSAKA Project: Antananarivo University, IRD, AFD & KIW

RESEARCH TEAM



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BETSAKA

An approach designed as an interface between research and operations

Scientific interests

- The environmental effectiveness of PAs is always open to debate, because it is approached too broadly: understanding the determinants
- Poorly known socio-economic impact of PAs, often studied independently of environmental impact
- Meso approach seems the right level to deliver results on governance, models and financing
- Strengthening local research capacity

Operational interests

- Institutional strengthening: University of Antananarivo, IRD, Paris Saclay, AFD, KFW
- Strong relationship with national stakeholders
- Improving monitoring tools at the meso-macro scale (mapme)
- Producing useful insights for policy-makers and practitioners in Madascar and beyond

3 axes structuring the research approach

Capacity building

- Structured project to promote good doctoral conditions
- Annual training on spatial impact assessment methods
- Household surveys designed to promote applied training
- Articulation with a Master's project in evaluation

Articulation between Research, Decision & Operations

- Main conservation stakeholders in the reference group
- o Organization of annual conferences
- Collaboration on "intermediates" output useful for operations and research
- Open science: Pre-analysis plans, open data, data papers, open source



RESEARCH QUESTIONS

Quantitative impact evaluation

What are the environmental impacts of PAs?

- on deforestation?
- on fires?

What are the socioeconomic impacts of PAs?

- on wellbeing and inequalities at national level?
- on livelihoods and poverty at local level?

Do PAs' economics and governance determine their environmental and socio-economic effectiveness?

What are the economics of PAs?

- Financing strategies?
- Management practices?

How effective is PA governance?

- Are there gaps between actual vs. formal governance?
- How substantive is the local participation?

Process analysis (mixed methods)

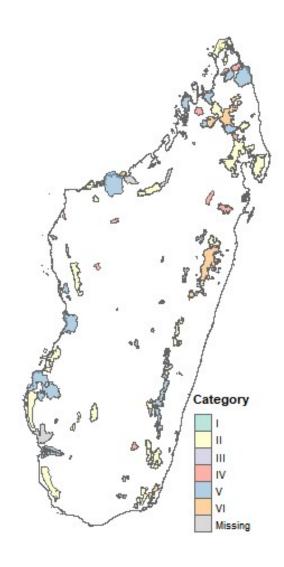
"BETSAKA" means "PLENTY"

Plenty of objectives and stakeholders

- Long term and large-scale evaluation
- o Both on environmental and socioeconomic
- For policy dialogue, operational learning and capacity building

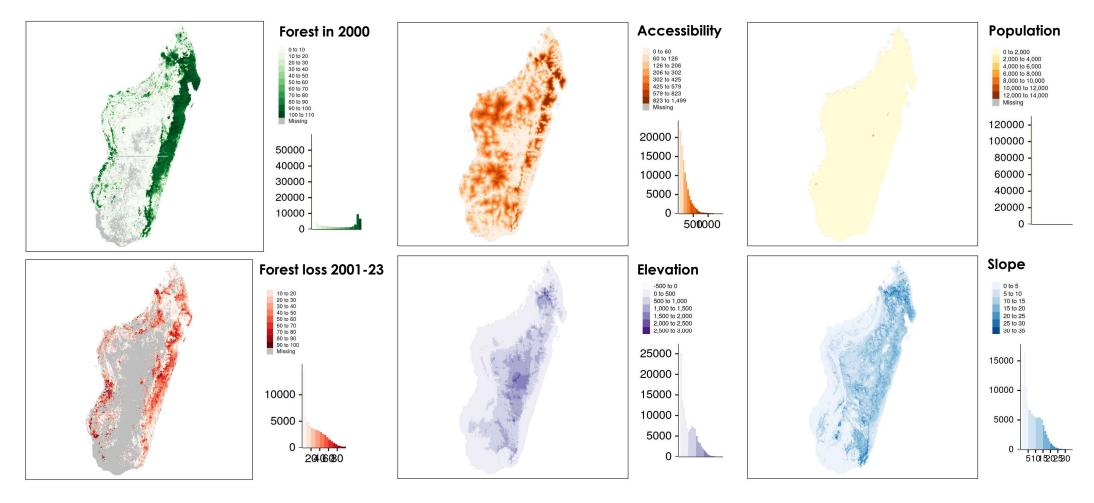
Plenty of data

- o Geomorphology, climatic
- Socioeconomic (primary & secondary data)
- Operational
- > Need for adapted tools and platforms



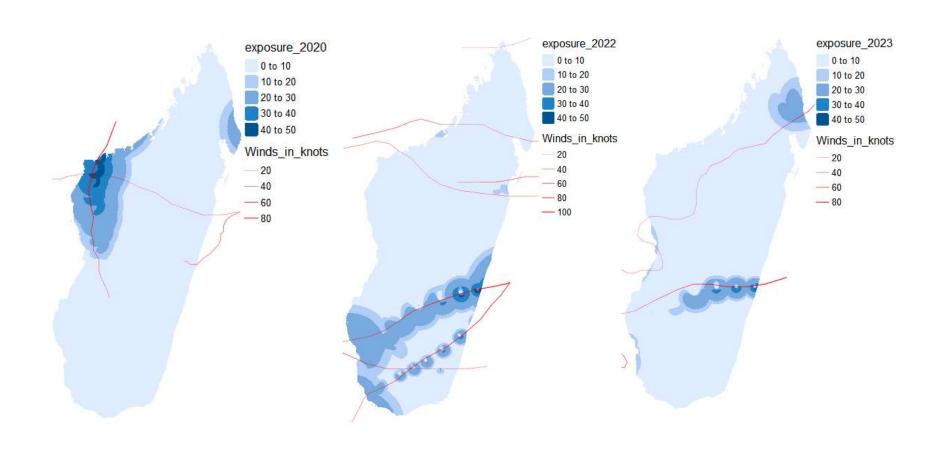
DATA FUSION

Using **mapme.biodiversity** to combine massive satellite data for assessing conservation impacts on forest cover and local population poverty



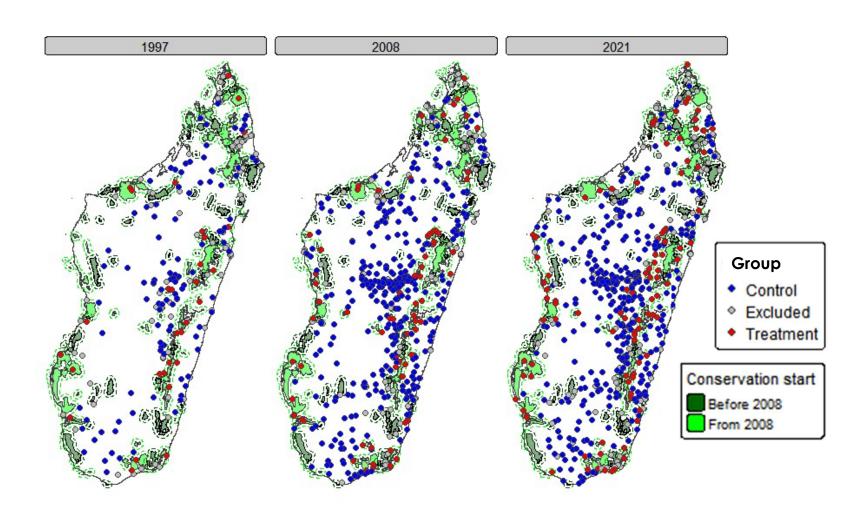
HAZARD MODELING

Assessing forest cover loss attributable to natural disaster to better differentiate from anthropic deforestation



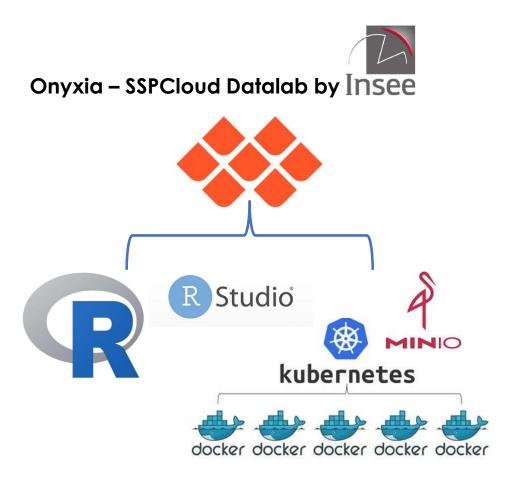
SOCIOECONOMIC DATA

Overlaying household survey data on top of remote sensing data

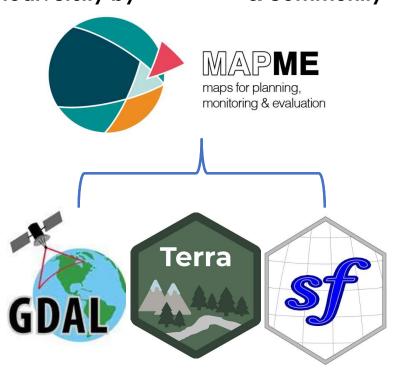


TECHNICAL PLATFORM

An innovative technical environment for big spatial data



















Thank you for your attention