

Project Update: September 2012

Lots of work has been done since our last news. The team composed of two Comorians and four Malagasy (current and past) Primatology Master Students, two French and two Portuguese students and volunteers, has now been visiting most of the remaining forest fragments around Anivorano avaratra. The situation here is much contrasted, and we alternatively discover and survey highly impacted forest, with dozens of charcoal ovens per kilometre, and beautiful remaining primary forest full of life. We have had some difficulties in interviewing local people concerning their use of the forest in the proximity of the highly touristic Mahamasina site of the Ankarana National Park. But we did compensate with other less frequented sites around the park. In July 2012, we took the opportunity of the presence of Célia Kun-Rodrigues to organise a practical course based on the advance use of the Excel.

In August 2012, a course also took place concerning Line Transect Distance Sampling statistical basis and practical analysis using Distance software. This last course was given by Davison Zaranaina and me. We are now trying to survey all unvisited remotes forest areas around Anivorano in the short remaining time period before the arrival of the rainy season.



Left: Analamerana Forest. ©Fabien Jan. Right: Lepilemur ankaranensis in its tree hole in its tree hole. ©Fabien Jan.