



The main goal of project Manondroala is to collect new information on the state of forests in Madagascar, and to support local people in protecting and restoring their forests. The main project partners are Association Mitsinjo and the Finnish Association for Nature Conservation.

Alien plant species that imbalance the ecosystem are removed and replaced with endemic tree species. Every year over 40 000 native tree seedlings are grown in the nursery and at least 25 000 of them planted in the restoration sites. Annually, more than 25 hectares of forest is restored.



Manondroala is Malagasy language, meaning 'showing the forest'. It is also the local name for a critically endangered tree species (*Rhopalocarpus thouarsianus*) that can only be found in the lowland coastal forests of eastern Madagascar.



People rely on the forest

In less than a hundred years the forest cover of Madagascar, one of the world's most important hotspots of biodiversity, has fallen dramatically. The remaining forests serve as the last local and regional refuge for numerous species and represent important natural resources for the local communities. These

forests have become extremely fragmented, which makes them very sensitive to human pressure and the impacts of climate change.



Reforestation

Manondroala tree nursery workers and the restoration team have to work hard to support the growth and survival of more than 60 endemic tree species. Reforestation requires a lot of hands-on knowledge about different tree species and their ecology, organic pest control and compost making.

Learn more about Mitsinjo's work:
www.mitsinjo.org/reforestation

Often the only way to sustain a livelihood among the people of Madagascar is to get it from the forest. Loss of forest is, however, causing increasing problems with e.g. access to clean water and resilience to extreme weather conditions.

Andasibe is a vital link between forest regions at the eastern rainforest belt. Because of that preserving the rainforest around Andasibe is crucial.

A MAP OF THE FORESTS AROUND ANDASIBE.

