



FFI in Madagascar

In Madagascar, FFI is working with QIT Madagascar Minerals (QMM), a Rio Tinto subsidiary which will mine mineral sands on the southeastern coast of Madagascar. Although most of the proposed mining area is already degraded, there are large fragments of intact littoral forest remaining and these hold all, or most, of the world's population of some plant and animal species. The forest is already under significant pressure from local communities who use it as a source of fuel wood and timber.

FFI is working with QMM and the other Rio Tinto Biodiversity partners to secure the long-term future of some forest fragments and with local partners on the conservation of threatened species, to demonstrate that with sound biodiversity management and offsets, the partnership can support Rio Tinto's commitment to achieve Net Positive Impact on the biodiversity of the area.

Partnership with RT

Rio Tinto and FFI agreed in 1999 to work together to further Rio Tinto's aim of ensuring a net positive impact on biodiversity within and around its areas of operation across the world.

The primary objective of the partnership is to develop innovative approaches to biodiversity leadership, governance and management that are conducive to sustainable development. Shared expertise and resources are used to integrate biodiversity planning into mine site management and provide the foundation for wider strategic support for biodiversity conservation in countries where Rio Tinto and FFI operate. In the past five years FFI has assisted Rio Tinto by:

- Development and implementation of Rio Tinto's biodiversity strategy
- Monitoring and adaptive management of biodiversity at mine sites through biodiversity action plans
- Advising on policy development
- Raising awareness of conservation perspectives at the corporate level

Conserving endemic fruit bats, reptiles and amphibians

Partnership with Madagasikara Voakajy

FFI is working with local partner NGO, *Madagasikara Voakajy* to protect, monitor and raise awareness on three of Madagascar's endemic fruit bat species that are threatened by habitat loss. Flying foxes are key species in fragmented ecosystems, such as at Fort Dauphin, and as they are not protected by Malagasy wildlife law, grassroots conservation and community engagement offer the best way to conserve these important animals. FFI, *Madagasikara Voakasy* and QMM specialists are also producing recommendations to protect the important endemic reptile and amphibian fauna of the region and as a result of the work two species have now been included in the 2007 IUCN Red List.



Conserving Littoral Forests

Partnership with Missouri Botanic Garden and MATE

MBG – Mahabo

In partnership with Missouri Botanic Gardens, we are working to protect one of the largest fragments of littoral forest remaining and assist the development of tree nurseries to restore degraded areas.

MATE – Vohibola

Through a grant from the Global Trees Campaign, FFI is supporting the conservation of four critically endangered trees that are endemic to the Vohibola forest, with a handful of known individuals remaining.