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## Assessing the decision-making process to evaluate the institutional governance related to the implementation of forest landscape restoration in Irodo watershed, Madagascar

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### Abstract

Madagascar has pledged to restore 4 million hectares of forest as part of the Bonn Challenge to combat environmental degradation and climate change. To achieve this challenging goal, governance has been identified as a priority by several researchers engaged in restoration. However, no regional study has yet been carried out in the pilot region of Diana, where the Ministry of Environment is implementing initial activities with the support of GIZ, even though the deadline is less than a decade away.

This study offers an approach to analyze, the main stakeholders engaged in FLR implementation. We identify the main actors, analyze the interlinkages between them and explore the policy and wider decision-making processes that contribute to shaping FLR activities today.

The results offered by the Governance Analytical Framework of Hufty showed that the main actors, both public and private, who participate directly in FLR activities are primarily those working in the environmental sector. Thus, other major stakeholder groups working in other sectors need approaches that are more in the nature of simple invitations to FLR-related events in order to raise their awareness and interest in involvement in FLR implementation activities. The strategic mobilization of FLR actors promotes the implementation of activities and contributes to the sustainability of interventions and effective results.

Although the analysis of legal texts reveals inconsistencies between the environment, agriculture, and land use sectors, the analysis of local decentralized levels shows that they are motivated to promote FLR and gives hope for a greater commitment to FLR in the future.

**Keywords:** Governance, implementation, land use, stakeholders, strategy