

Vuola, M. and Pyhälä, A. 2016. Local community perceptions of conservation policy: Rights, recognition and reactions. *Madagascar Conservation & Development* 11, 2: 77–86.
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Table S1. Summary of the data gathered in November–December 2014.

Method	Sample size	Focus of data
Household interviews	44	FPIC; local perceptions on RNP and forests; livelihoods; socio-ecological change; development projects; rules and regulations; relationship with authorities
Village meetings	5	Introductions; FPIC; village-level priority issues
Key informant interviews	5	Externally-initiated conservation projects in the community; relationship with different authorities
Focus groups	3	Perceptions of men, women and elders on conservation
Internal Documents (e.g., Centre ValBio – CVB, Outreach programs, etc)	Annual reports 2006, 2010	General village information
Participant Observation	In all sample villages	Validation and deepening our understanding of the way of life and the socio-environmental setting
Expert interview 1: CVB, Monitoring and Partnerships Department	1	Introduction to the area, current events and conflicts
Expert interview 2: CVB, Conservation education & Outreach Department	2	Environmental education and agricultural training programs of CVB; Cultural challenges of conservation
Expert interview 3: Madagascar National Parks – MNP, Ranomafana National Park – RNP	1	RNP's relation to local communities, policy on compensation, employment of local people, local people's demands for land
Expert interview 4: Association of Guides of RNP (Association des Guides de RNP), two representatives	1	Benefits of RNP for local communities
Expert interview 5: Gendarmerie of Vohiparara	1	Cooperation of gendarmerie with MNP and local associations

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Table S2. Local reactions to top-down rules.

Reaction	Description	Example of individual or specific expression
Approval of rules	Distance to PA makes rules irrelevant;	There are good things. Forest protection guarantees pure air and water for us. Also sometimes MNP offers our son work such as building tracks in the park." – Woman 58, Torotosy
	Economic benefits gained from MNP exceed losses	
Disapproval of rules	MNP is seen as unjust, untrustworthy, disrespectful, and unconcerned for local community rights and wellbeing	"The national park betrayed us." – Man 77, Ranovao
Reluctant Obedience	Fear for authorities and punishments	"The villagers are afraid of the authorities and this is why we obey and do not try to negotiate. But we are very unhappy." – Man 70, Ranovao
	No means to negotiate	"I do not want to change anything because the park does not bother me. I have no means to complain so I follow the rules." – Woman 38, Amboditanimena
	Denial of problems	"There is no negative side, only that we do not have enough [<i>resources</i>]to make our living." –Man 55, Amboditanimena
Attempts to negotiate	Open argument; propositions for changing the relationship with MNP	"In my opinion, a local association should be established to facilitate things with RNP and manage crayfish catching in Vohiparara." – Man 39, Vohiparara
Disobedience	Poverty and hunger force people to illegally use natural resources	"The ordinary people are deprived of their only livelihood and possessions and they understand that the law is not on their side but against them." – Woman 24, Amboditanimena
Opposition	Armed conflicts	Gold mining conflicts between RNP and northwestern villages