

# Tolagnaro Littoral Forest Compensation Sites — QMM Ilmenite Mine (Madagascar)

PES & Nature-Based Solutions · Good practice · Madagascar

Quality score: 13/100

Evidence strength: Cautionary / limited

## Summary

Rio Tinto's QMM ilmenite mine near Tolagnaro offsets 1,665 ha of forest loss with ~6,000 ha of protected forest, about 3.5x the footprint, but researchers find the offset habitat ecologically mismatched and patrollers paid below minimum wage.

## Key dimensions

| Dimension                                               | Score |
|---------------------------------------------------------|-------|
| Carbon — sequestration / storage, evidenced             | 0/3   |
| Biodiversity — conservation / improvement, evidenced    | 1/3   |
| Water & soil — retention, infiltration, erosion control | 0/3   |
| Fire resilience — risk reduction, evidenced             | 0/3   |
| Governance, certification & transferability             | 1/3   |

Evaluated by C-NAPSE

## Data sources

C-NAPSE web research — accessed 2026-07-10

QIT Madagascar Minerals (QMM) / Rio Tinto, with Asity Madagascar — accessed 2026-07-10

Mongabay: Raze here, save there — do biodiversity offsets work for people or ecosystems? (2020) — accessed 2026-07-10

ScienceDirect: Environmental protection in Madagascar — biodiversity offsetting in the mining sector — accessed 2026-07-10

FAPBM: Biodiversity conservation in Madagascar — do no net loss commitments help? — accessed 2026-07-10

Nature Sustainability (2022): comparator study on Ambatovy no-net-loss offset — accessed 2026-07-10

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