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Can REDD+ social safeguards reach the 'right' people?

Mahesh Poudyal, Bruno S. Ramamonjisoa, Alexandra Rasoamanana,
Rina Mandimbiniaina, James Gibbons, Neal J. Hockley, Sarobidy
Rakotonarivo, **Julia P.G. Jones**



@juliapgjones, julia.jones@bangor.ac.uk, www.p4ges.org

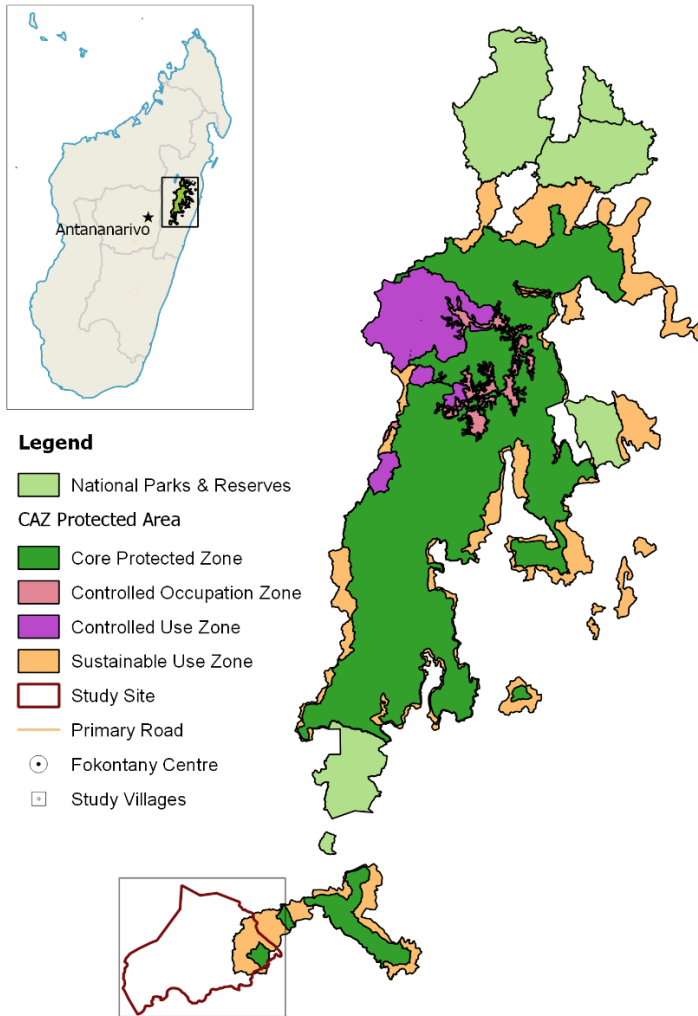


Social safeguards in REDD+ (Reducing Emissions from Deforestation and Degradation)

- Aims to ensure that people are not harmed or made worse off by REDD+ activities: recent commitments BUT criticism that planned provision is weak
- Social safeguards are not new-many donors have their own social safeguard procedures in place e.g. World Bank identifies Project Affected Persons (PAP) for compensation



Corridor Ankeniheny Zahamena (CAZ) REDD+ pilot project



CAZ aims to generate carbon credits by reducing deforestation-main driver of which is swidden agriculture

Therefore project success depends on economic displacement of people from this livelihood

2500 PAPs identified in safeguard assessment in 2010

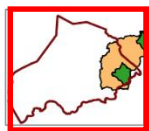


Study site-Ampahitra fokontany

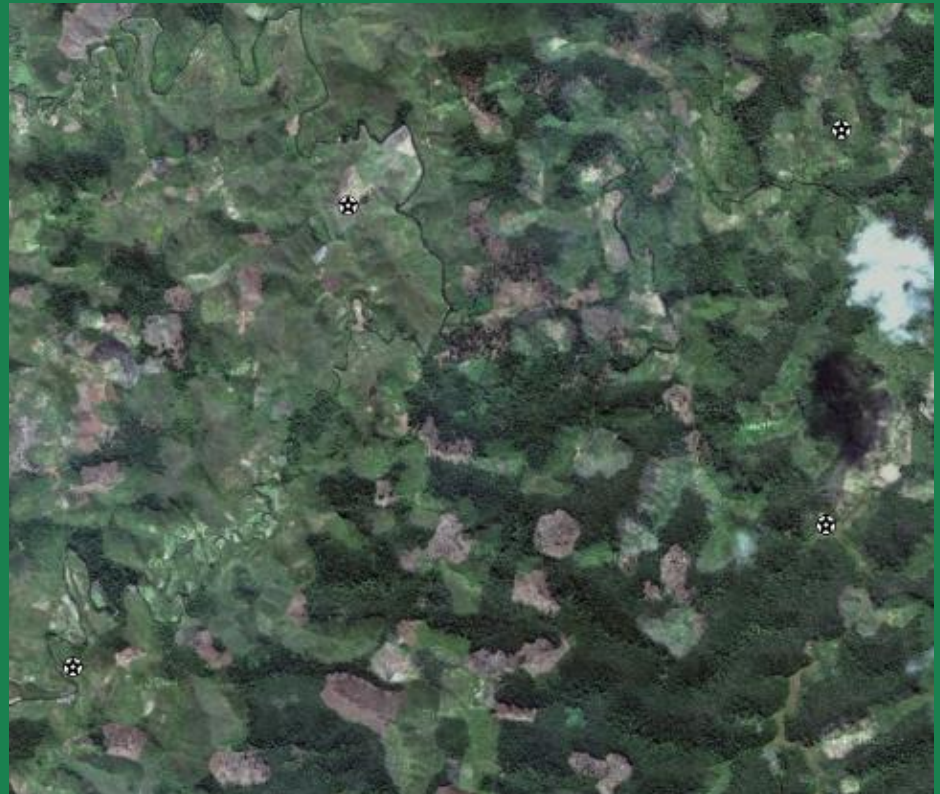


Legend

-  National Parks & Reserves
- CAZ Protected Area**
-  Core Protected Zone
-  Controlled Occupation Zone
-  Controlled Use Zone
-  Sustainable Use Zone
-  Study Site
-  Primary Road
-  Fokontany Centre
-  Study Villages



(a) CAZ Protected Area with location of study site



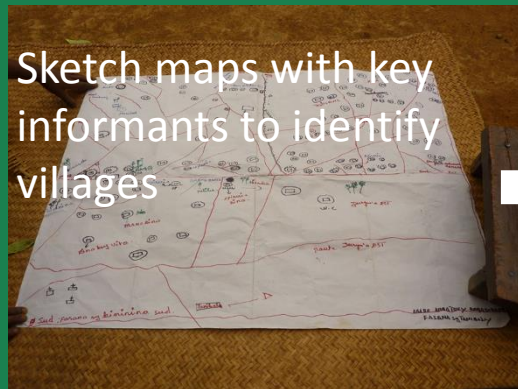
- Very high deforestation from 2005-2010
- 77 households identified as PAPs

Aim: to compare characteristics of households identified as PAPs with a random sample of households in the area
(to explore characteristics which make it more or less likely for households to be identified as eligible for compensation under safeguards)



Methods

Constructing a sampling frame (33% of field time!)



417
households
identified

Household interviews with stratified random sample (203)

39 had been identified as PAPs

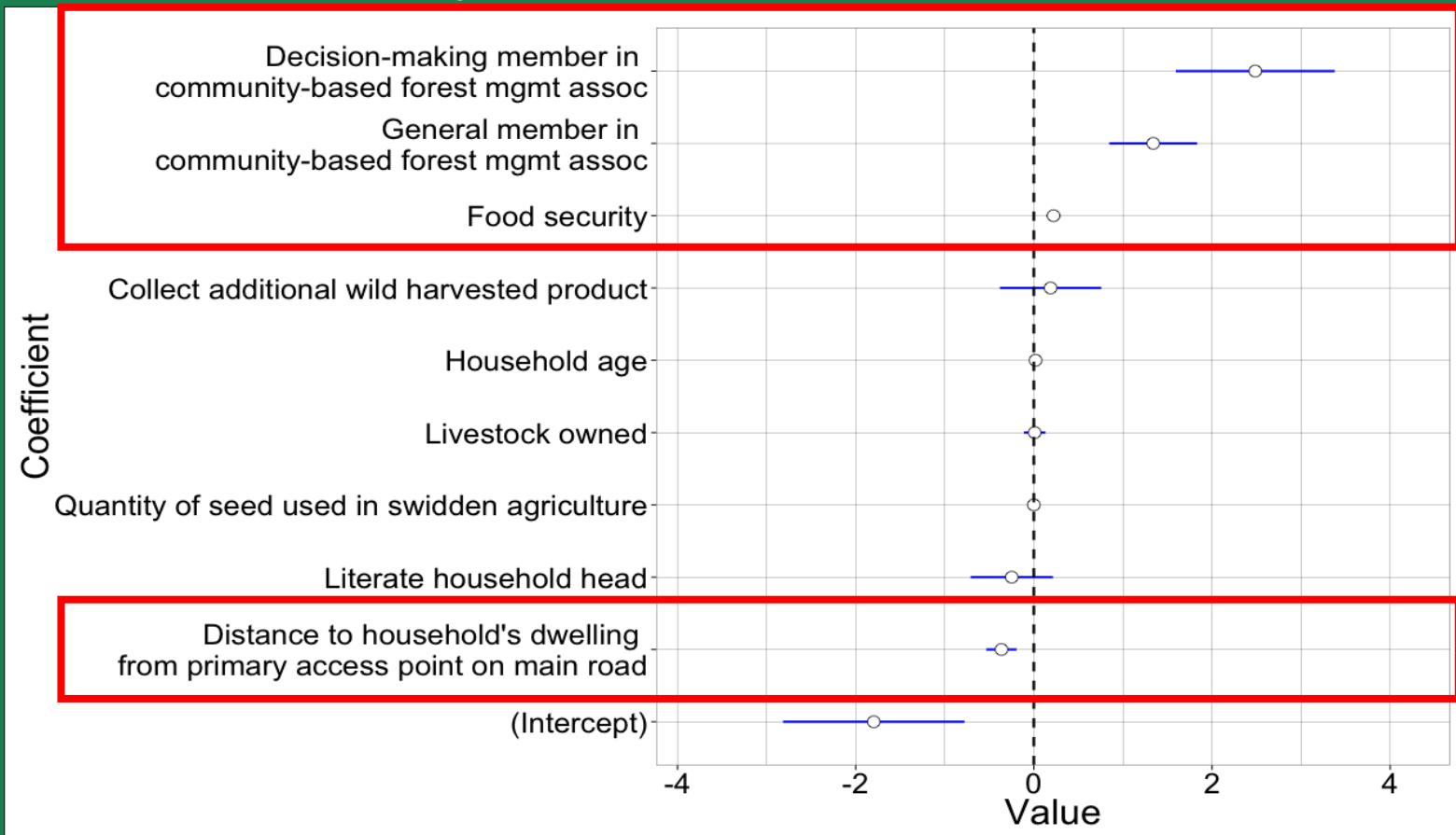




- We used a binomial GLM to explore which variables predict whether a household is identified as a PAP
- **Expectation**: HHs identified as PAPs would be **more dependent on swidden agriculture, be more dependent on wild-harvested products, be more recently established**
- We also included variables such as **food security, membership of forest management associations, proximity to administrative centre** to check *whether wealth, socio-political power and access increases chances of being identified as PAP*

Results

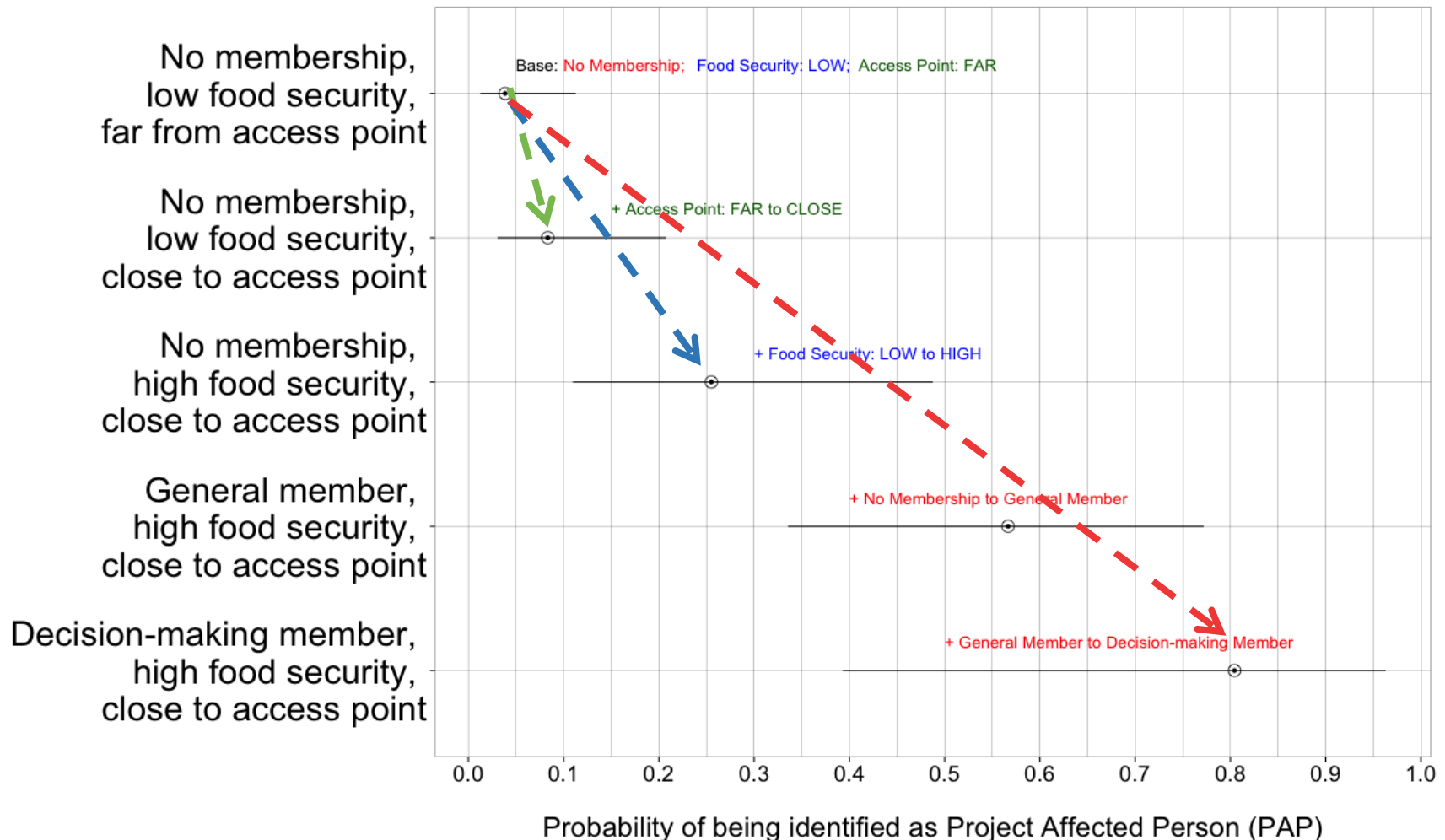
- Indicators of wealth and socio-political power/access were the most important predictors of whether a household was identified as eligible to receive compensation



More accessible households are nearly 2x more likely to be PAPs

More food secure households are 5X more likely to be PAPs

Committee members 16x more likely to be PAPs



Discussion

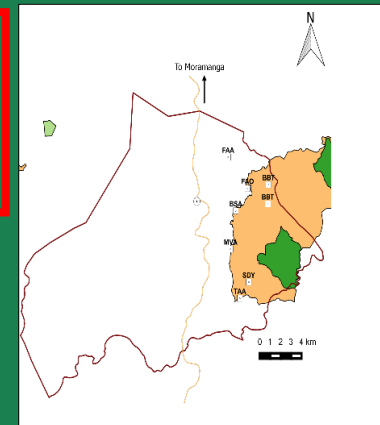
- Households identified as PAPs may well be deserving (all are poor) BUT many HHs likely to be affected were omitted and appears to be a systematic bias in safeguard assessments process due to local elite capture

- This would be hard to avoid

i) VERY poor information

ii) Unwillingness to self-identify

Available maps and gazetteers showed only 3 of the 8 villages in the area



- Reliance on existing institutions (such as forest management associations) may have exacerbated inequalities

Conclusions

- An effective social safeguard assessment to identify individual households affected by a REDD+ project may not be practical (or cost-effective) in settings with poor information on local populations and challenging access.
- Blanket compensation of all households may be the optimal solution.



Acknowledgements



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- In one village (entirely within the PA boundary) no one was identified as a PAP



Outside
protected area

Inside
protected area

