Bureau Indépendant Anti Corruption
MADAGASCAR

IMPACTS OF GRAND CORRUPTION
ON THE ENVIRONMENT

MALAGASY EXPERIENCE

Global Expert Group Meeting on Corruption
Involving Vast Quantities of Assets

3-5 December 2018 Lima, PERU
Content

- Madagascar’s environmental particularities
- Impacts of grand corruption
  - Traffic of rosewood: Modus operandi
  - Challenges
In less than a hundred years the forest cover of Madagascar, one of the world’s most important hotspots of biodiversity, has fallen dramatically.

- Madagascar has unique nature and most of the species found in the island live only in Madagascar (More than 80%).
- In 2017, Madagascar was the country with the highest deforestation rate in the world.

Causes:
- Slash and burn agriculture
- Bush fires
- Illicit wood cuttings
CORRUPTION

- 88 cases handled on rosewood traffic by BIANCO
  - Cost and stake: 13 Billion USD
- Rosewood cost: 30 000USD/T
- 300 000 cut rosewoods seized
- 510 000 Hectares of Forest has disappeared
- 4% of the national Forest (Global Forest Watch)
HOW?

- The business of the natural resources exploitation earn priceless benefits
- Poverty and lack of education of the community
- Impunity due to strong network of corruption and weakness of law enforcement
- Failure of the judiciary system
- Lack of political will
February the 5th 2014, the new elected President of Republic of Madagascar Hery Rajaonarimampianina, declared: «I’m going to lead personally this fight against trafics of rosewood».
MODUS OPERANDI

- Illegal authorization
- Illicit cutting
- Transportation and physical protection
- Boarding on ship
- Export by corruption customs
- Smuggling by border police corruption and legalization of exportation by senior executive officials
MODUS OPERANDI

- Legal and judiciary protection
- Financing of important political parties
- Being parliamentarian to benefit immunity protection recognized by Constitution
CHALLENGES

- Education of the population to take care and to protect environment and to denounce all illicit activities
- Strengthening of the watchdog role of the civil society
- Law enforcement: Prosecution and conviction of all the traffickers of the rosewood mafia network from top to bottom
- Independence and implementation of the special Court against traffic of precious woods
- Real Political Will
- Strengthening of International cooperation
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