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Community Legal Resource Center

The Legal Resource Centre (LRC) is an information and legal support service dedicated to local communities managing natural resources, communities living in protected and conserved areas, and environmental human rights defenders.

The LRC is a structure within TAFO MIHAAVO, managed under the joint TAFO MIHAAVO–Natural Justice initiative.

To carry out its activities, the LRC works closely with public institutions, lawyers, and other legal professionals, legal experts, and civil society organizations.

WHAT DOES THE LRC DO?



INFORMATION ON RIGHTS AND OBLIGATIONS

Provides information on existing laws, rules, and procedures relating to your rights and obligations, particularly in the areas of natural resources and the environment.



GUIDANCE AND SUPPORT THROUGH ADMINISTRATIVE AND LEGAL PROCEDURES

The LRC can guide and support you in your dealings with administrative authorities, courts, and other mechanisms for resolving disputes.



SUPPORT DINA AND COMMUNITY GOVERNANCE SYSTEMS

The LRC supports the development and implementation of Dina (customary community rules), as well as the strengthening of rules and governance mechanisms within local communities.



SUPPORT INITIATIVES TO STRENGTHEN AND SECURE RIGHTS

The LRC can support initiatives aimed at securing community rights over land, natural resources, traditional knowledge, and territories of life.



SUPPORT ENVIRONMENTAL HUMAN RIGHTS DEFENDERS

When an environmental human rights defender faces an emergency situation, the LRC may provide assistance, to the extent possible.

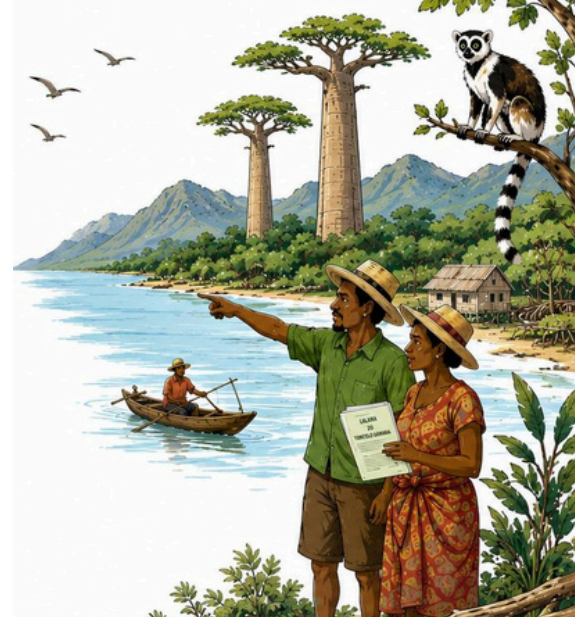
WHAT THE LRC DOES NOT DO



The LRC does not directly represent communities or environmental human rights defenders before courts or other dispute resolution mechanisms. However, it can guide and support them throughout the process and help them work with a lawyer when necessary.



The LRC also cannot intervene in cases that do not involve natural resources, the environment, or the collective interests of custodian communities.



FOR ENVIRONMENTAL HUMAN RIGHTS DEFENDERS

If you are an environmental human rights defender facing an emergency situation, the LRC can assist you in applying for support from the AED Fund. The **AED Fund** is a dedicated fund that provides temporary assistance to environmental human rights defenders facing emergency situations.



FOR SUPPORT REQUESTS INVOLVING ALLEGED OFFENCES

When a case is submitted to the LRC, the information provided is first reviewed to verify the facts presented. An ad hoc committee then examines the possibilities for providing support to the case. In this process, the LRC works closely with the Ministry of the Environment and Sustainable Development and the relevant institutions and organizations.

HOW TO CONTACT THE LRC?



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