

Study Sites

Four study sites were chosen for this study based on three criteria: representation of communities at different chronological stages in the mining “rush” cycle; level of sapphire production and importance in the market; representation of diverse areas of Madagascar; and areas with environmental importance and sensitivity. The four sites in this study are named by the major town of the area, and are: Andranodambo (southeast); Ambondromifehy (north); Ilakaka-Sakaraha (southwest); and Ifanato (southwest).

Figure 2: Map of Madagascar showing the four study sites



(adapted from shaded relief map of Madagascar, 2003 at <http://www.lib.utexas.edu/maps/madagascar.html>)