

SAYA DE MALHA DAILY

A Newsletter by Dominique and François

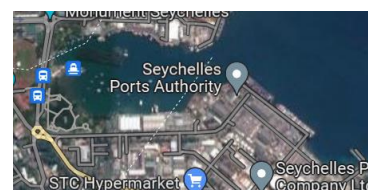


N°1, 31st October 2022

Where are we ?

New Port, Victoria, Seychelles
4.37° South 55.27° East

Nice weather
Air Temperature 27°3
Water Temperature 24°6



Seychelles

The Republic of Seychelles is an archipelagic country located in the Indian Ocean at about 1500 Km from the African coast. It is composed of 115 islands. Its capital city is Victoria, the principal town of Mahe Island. The nearest countries are Comoros, Mauritius, Madagascar, the French territories of Mayotte and Réunion, as well as the Maldives at the North-East. Its population is about 98 000 inhabitants.

Seychelles were not inhabited before the arrival of the Europeans at the 16th century, although they were probably known by the Arab and Indian merchants. Following the Napoleonic wars France lost Seychelles and entered under control of the British in the 18th century. The country became independent in 1976. Since there, its economy, which was essentially based of agriculture, diversified greatly toward a strong tertiary sector based mainly on tourism. Today, Seychelles has the highest Gross National Income per capita of Africa and is considered as a high-income country.

The Seychellois culture is a mix of influences from the French, the British and the African, with more recently inputs from Chinese, Iranian and Indians. Official languages are Seychellois Creole, English and French.



What happened today ?

The Students

Taking opportunity of the stop-over in Victoria, several schools have been invited to visit the vessel and to meet with the expedition participants. The activities, organised in collaboration with the Government of Seychelles, have raised the students' awareness of the importance of this scientific mission.



While the oldest students were introduced to measurement instruments, others were learning how to sketch with Rémi or create a podcast with Elise, the two expedition artists.

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The portrait



Didier Théron, Outreach Officer, Monaco Explorations

Didier Théron was born in 1961 in Montpellier. Biologist by training and passionate by the marine life, he first worked with the Biological Station of Sète and entered the Oceanographic Museum in 2008 as a member of the aquarium team. Quickly, he became in charge of education and cultural mediation.

On the expedition, he is responsible for communication and outreach. With this exploratory campaign, he hopes that many children and youth will learn about marine life and its protection. And more broadly, this campaign will raise awareness of high seas conservation on the basis of robust scientific information.

In the corridors ...



On the gangway, April from the UK, started a PhD on corals 2 weeks ago. "I am overwhelmed by the whole expedition, the people on board, fantastic opportunity for me"



The cook overseeing the uploading of the food for the next 3 weeks. "Us South Africans we eat a lot of meat, but we try to cook to please the French and island passengers. they do not eat as much meat".



In the lounge on deck 7 Stephane, Emmanuel and Gregoire from the Museum of Natural History and the CNRS in Paris, all divers on the expedition.

"I am volunteer, said Grégoire, It is my first time on such a large research vessel".

"I worked on extreme environments" said Stephane