



REPT'ILE: Terrestrial Reptiles of the Scattered Islands

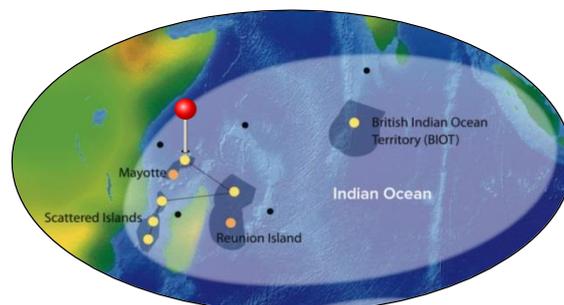
Targeted territory: Scattered Islands, Glorioso Islands

Total project budget: 48,585 Euros

BEST 2.0 grant awarded: 48,585 Euros

Duration: July 2016 – December 2017 (18 months)

Lead organisation: Nature Ocean Indien



Background:

The Scattered Islands are particularly vulnerable to climate change due to their coral nature, age and isolation. As uninhabited islands they are real ecological sentinels for the Indian Ocean and can provide reference models for the impacts of climate change in the absence of direct human pressure.

Much of the herpetofauna on the islands is threatened although a large proportion of species have not been assessed. The species of this taxonomic group are particularly sensitive to environmental changes and are good biological indicators in the context of climate change. In order to inform suitable management of these islands it is important to have sufficient data on the terrestrial herpetofauna.

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Description of the project:

This project aims to improve the knowledge and conservation of terrestrial reptiles on the Glorioso Islands and provide a baseline of the still little known herpetofauna. Through desk-based research and collation of existing data and field trips to Grande Glorieuse, Île du Lys and Roches Vertes it will assess (or reassess) the conservation status of all terrestrial reptiles.

The data collected for each species will be analysed and a summary will be produced. A GIS maps will also be produced for each species. The results of the project will be published in the form of a scientific paper.

Intended results:

- Improved knowledge of the terrestrial reptiles on the Glorioso Islands including distribution and population sizes.
- Updated assessment of the conservation status of the species present on the islands.
- Updated management measures proposed on the basis of the knowledge generated by the project.



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