

Seychelles Marine Science Symposium (SMSS) information

What is it?

A scientific symposium where researchers associated with government agencies, private research institutes, NGO's and independent consultants/scientists can gather to present their findings/research briefs on anything related to the coastal and marine environment in Seychelles. The symposium will involve scientific talks, posters, and keynote talks. Think of your typical scientific symposium/conference with the requirement that research be carried out within the Seychelles EEZ and have some links with the marine environment.

Why we need it?

Seychelles is home to a vast ocean environment with many research activities taking place concurrently from deep sea exploration, coral reef ecology to mangrove assessments. There are many actors involved, from government agencies to NGO's and from local citizen scientists to foreign researchers. Because there is no centralized point where all this research is disseminated it's hard to know what research is currently happening/proposed and where, stifling potential for collaboration, knowledge exchange and risking research duplication. The aim of the symposium is therefore to bring all researchers together for a 2-day scientific symposium to share their findings and ideas, foster future collaborations, and document all the marine research occurring in Seychelles. We hope for this symposium to turn into a biennial event moving forward.

Outputs

We are aiming to publish a book of extended abstracts following each symposium to permanently document what marine research is occurring in Seychelles. We will also develop a mailing list for scientific researchers to send out announcements or queries to the greater research community which will be compiled and sent out every month.

Benefits

Increased awareness of what projects are happening, fostering collaborations. An opportunity to present and refine research briefs through input from the many experts attending the symposium. University, and post-secondary students will be invited to gain experience presenting to an audience and become aware of opportunities for developing career pathways. This will be a centralized knowledge dissemination event.

Early logistics

The Seychelles Marine Science Symposium (SCMSS) will take place from 22 -23 May 2024 at Eden Bleu. Presentations will be in person or broadcast over zoom to the audience for those unable to attend. Applications are closed and applicants have been notified. Lunch and tea will be provided at the venue, but international attendees will need to take care of their own dinner, transport, flights and accommodation. The cost to attend this event is covered by our core sponsors UniSey-BERI, Save Our Seas Foundation and WIOMSA. On Friday the 24th of May an ocean open day in Victoria town open to the public is being organized by Seychellois youth that we encourage all delegates to attend and take party in.