

Protect our Waters from MARINE INVADERS!



Stop marine invasive species in Seychelles waters!

A recent study discovered three introduced marine species in the Seychelles. These findings indicate that there is a real threat to the marine environment and economy of the Seychelles which must be addressed now.

A real problem to the marine environment...

If marine introduced species become established in new environments they are considered invasive and can cause the following significant *ecological*, *economical* and *social* problems:

- Loss of native species by outcompeting them for food resources.
- Damage to the environment that impacts tourism.
- Reduction in fisheries production.
- Human health problems by introducing diseases.

Marine invasive species are difficult, if impossible, to remove once established and have been recognised as one of the top threats to marine biodiversity in the world.

How do they arrive?

The species found in the Seychelles were most likely transported outside their native range through ships' ballast water discharge and hull-fouling. *Up to 7000 marine species are carried around the world via commercial vessels every day!*

Why is the Seychelles vulnerable?

The environment of the Seychelles is vulnerable to introduced species due to its relative isolation, shipping traffic and damaged reef habitats brought about by the bleaching event of 1998, where 80-90% of the reef was damaged.

The spread of invasive species in our oceans is a big problem that can and must be prevented! **YOU** can help prevent the spread of marine invasive species in the Seychelles by learning more and spreading the word.



For more information pick up a brochure or leaflet and go to www.iucn.org/themes/marine/invasives/coralreefs/seychelles
If you notice any suspicious plants or animals in our waters please call Greenline: 722111



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