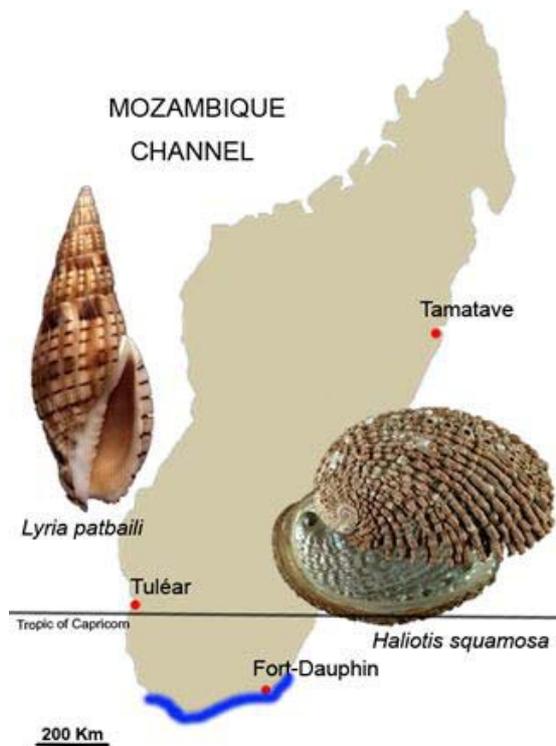


ATIMO VATAE
EXPEDITION TO MADAGASCAR "DEEP SOUTH"
MARINE FAUNA & FLORA
April-June 2010

Context

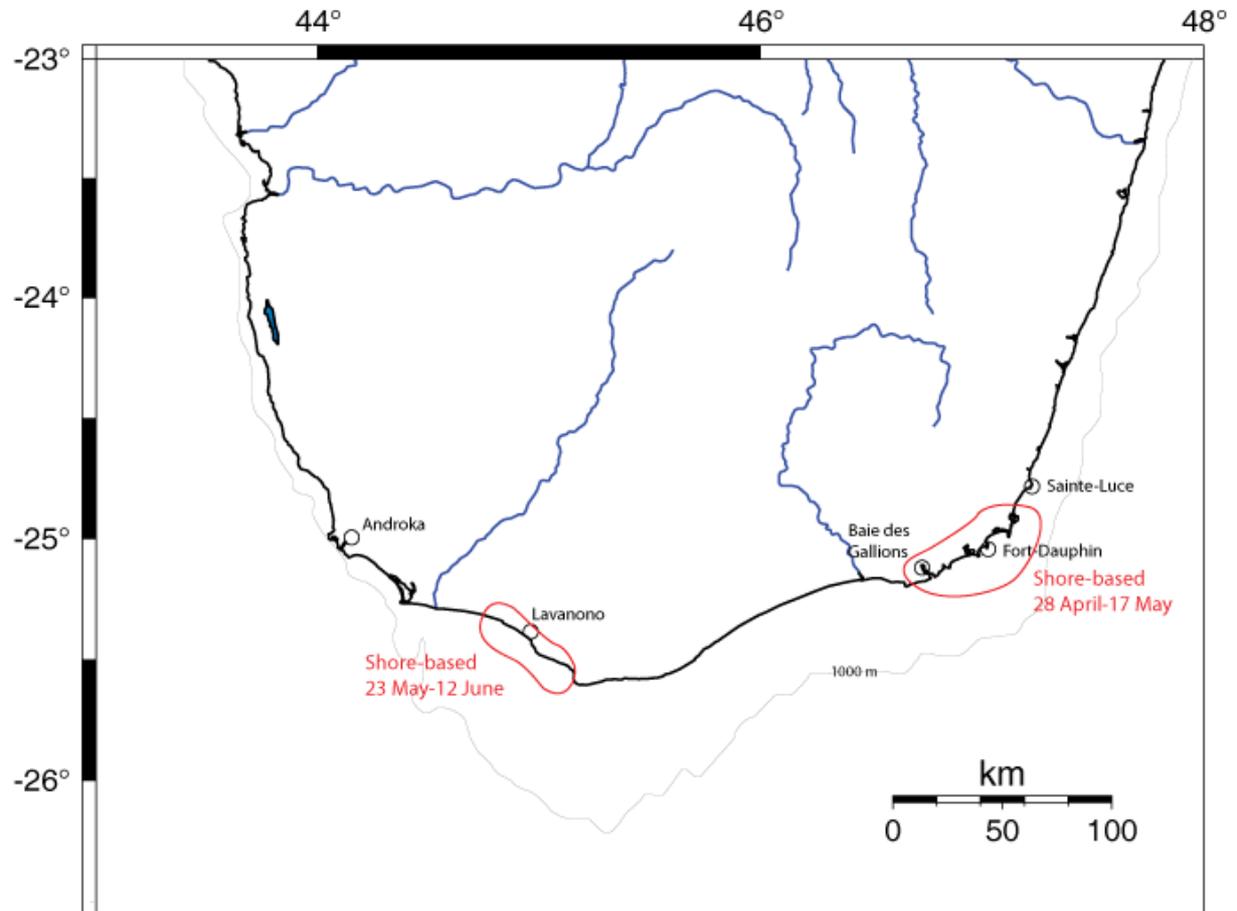
“*Our Planet Reviewed*” is the joint initiative of an academic institution - Muséum National d'Histoire Naturelle (MNHN) - and an NGO - Pro-Natura International (PNI) - to document, sample and describe the neglected components of biodiversity in key ecosystems of the world. The present expedition is part of a cluster of 2009-2010 expeditions in Mozambique and Madagascar. The marine expeditions are networking with the *Census of Marine Life* and the *Barcode of Life* initiatives, and the *World Union for Nature* (IUCN) has declared its support to the project. See www.laplaneterevisitee.org

The Muséum National d'Histoire Naturelle (MNHN, Paris), the Institut d'Halieutique et des Sciences Marines, University of Toliara (IH.SM), and the Wildlife Conservation Society (WCS) Madagascar Programme are uniting their efforts to organize an expedition to explore the coastal marine fauna and flora in what is certainly the least known region of Madagascar: the "Deep South", a cold oceanic region of fierce promontories, open bays and extensive algal belts. The name of the expedition, *Atimo Vatae*, means "Deep South" in the regional Antandroy language.



The "Deep South" of Madagascar, a cold water region rich in endemic species.

(1-2) Components 1 and 2. These will be shore-based parties of 15-20 persons, collecting at low tide (what little there is of it), subtidally by diving, and with hand-operated dredge, all within 1-1.5 hr of the shore bases. Bulk samples will be processed in basic laboratory facilities, with a chain of treatment involving sorting with microscopes, photographing, and tissue clipping.

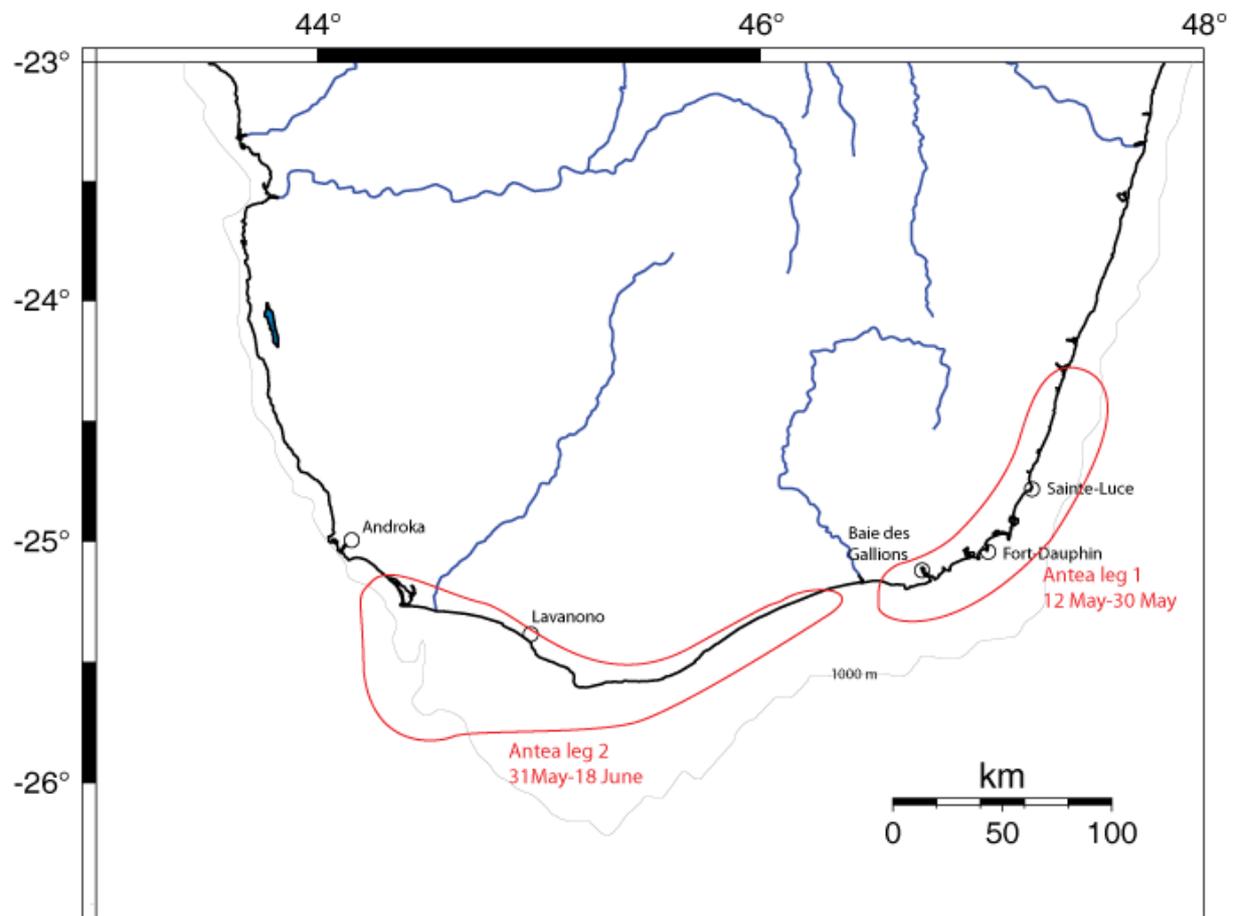


Beach-rock in Lavanono



Lanirano Backwater, Fort-Dauphin

(3-4) Components 3 and 4. These will consist of a party of 10 qualified divers based on IRD's *Antea*, a 34 m research vessel with good lab space. Most sampling will be targeted collecting, with limited bulk sampling.

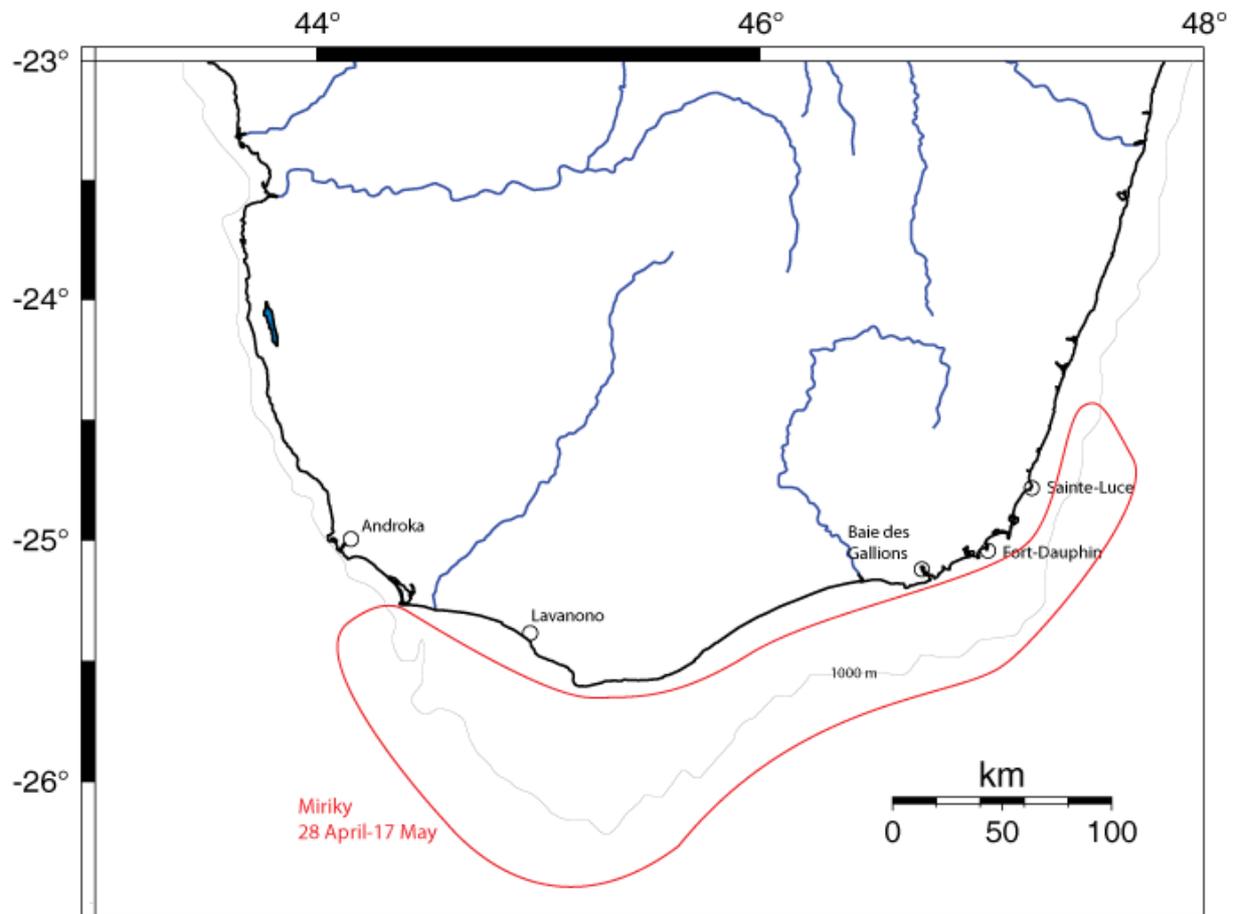


IRD's R.V. *Antea*



Evatra Point, Fort-Dauphin

(5) Component 5. This will consist of a party of 8 persons on board the chartered shrimp trawler *Miriky*. It will sample by dredging and trawling on the continental shelf and upper continental slope to 300-500 meters.



Shrimp trawler *Miriky*

Tentative lists of participants

1. Shore-based Fort-Dauphin

28 April – 17 May

Laurent Albenga
Philippe Bouchet
Barbara Buge
Laurent Charles
Paul Clark
Olivier de Clerck
Rudo von Cosel
Jacques Dumas
Leslie Harris
Virginie Héros
Cia-Wei Lin
Pierre Lozouet
Philippe Maestrati
Nenito Otero
Patrice Petit-Devoize
Marina Poddubetskaia
Nicolas Puillandre
Sonia Ribes
Florence Rousseau
Ellen Strong
Dave Valles

2. Shore-based Lavanono

23 May – 12 June

Laurent Albenga
Philippe Bouchet
Barbara Buge
Magalie Castelin
Tin-Yam Chan
Laurent Charles
Rudo von Cosel
Phil Heemstra
Elaine Heemstra
Philippe Maestrati
Nenito Otero
Patrice Petit-Devoize
Jacques Pelorce
Marta Pola
Nicolas Puillandre

Bruno de Reviere

Ellen Strong

Dave Valles

3. Antea Leg 1 [strictly limited to 10 persons]

12 May – 30 May

Xavier Desmier (qq. jours) followed by
Alain Barrère
Tan Heok-Hui
Pierre Laboute
Line Le Gall
Marco Oliverio
Mike Severns
John Starmer

4. Antea Leg 2 [strictly limited to 10 persons]

31 May – 18 June

Robert Anderson
Eric Feunteun
Terry Gosliner
Pierre Laboute
François Michonneau
Stefano Schiaparelli
Emre Turak
Nicole de Voogd

5. Miriky offshore [strictly limited to 8 persons]

28 April – 17 May

Jean-François Barazer
Tin-Yam Chan
Laure Corbari
Yuri Kantor
Phil Heemstra
Bertrand Richer de Forges
Anders Warén

Funding

The expedition is supported by *Fondation Total* (Total Foundation), *Fondation Prince Albert II de Monaco*, the *Stavros Niarchos Foundation*, and the *Richard Lounsbery Foundation*.



Richard Lounsbery Foundation

Who does what?

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Expedition organization

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