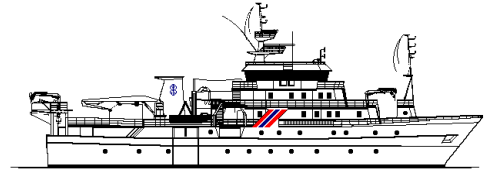


<b>Country:</b> Mauritius				
<b>Research vessel:</b> R/V DR. FRIDTJOF NANSEN				
<b>Survey number:</b> 2008406				
<b>Number of days:</b> 4				
<b>General objectives:</b> Mauritius Ecosystem survey				
	<b>Port</b>	<b>Date</b>	<b>Coverage</b>	<b>Specific objectives</b>
<b>Departure</b>	Port Luis, Mauritius	4 October 2008	Mauritius	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>To determine the nature of the South Equatorial Current as a driving force for the marine ecosystem by establishing the physical/chemical environment of Mauritius that will affect the nature and motion over the continental shelf of the island.</li> <li>To determine the on- and offshore distribution of organisms on a number of trophic levels and how these are affected by the reigning current system.</li> <li>To determine the biodiversity of the Island's marine ecosystem and its surroundings</li> <li>To establish, as far as possible, the productivity, biodiversity and biomass of the pelagic ecosystem.</li> <li>To do preliminary investigations on species diversity on the demersal fish fauna over the Mascarene Plateau Section.</li> </ul>
<b>Arrival</b>	Port Luis, Mauritius	7 October 2008		
<b>Cruise leader:</b> Sigbjørn Mehl				
<b>Participants:</b>				
<p><b>ACEP;</b> African Coelacanth Ecosystem Programme, Tommy Bornman,  <b>ASCLME;</b> Agulas and Somali Current Large Marine Ecosystems project, Claire Attwood,  <b>IMR;</b> Institute of Marine Research, Norway, Sigbjørn Mehl (Cruise Leader), Inger Marie Beck, Tore Mørk, Ole Sverre Fosshem,  <b>MA-RE;</b> Marine Research Institute, UCT, Pavs Pillay  <b>OMI;</b> Mauritius Oceanographic Institute, Oocheetsing Sadasing, Vikash Muibodhe,  <b>SAEON;</b> South African Environmental Observation Network, Angus Paterson, Kim Bernard,  <b>SCMRT;</b> Seychelles Centre for Marine Research &amp; Technology, Barbara Hoareau,  <b>UCT;</b> University of Cape Town, Raymond Roman (Local Chief Scientist), Jonathan Durgadoo,  <b>UWC;</b> University of Western Cape, Bradley Flynn,  Duncan Graham-Rowe, <b>Reporter,</b> Britain.</p>				
<b>Summary of the results:</b>				
<p>The hydro acoustic survey covered only the shelf and slope along the environmental transects. Continuous acoustic recording and analysis was carried out throughout the survey. Due to limited survey time and almost no visible registrations only one pelagic blind trawl haul was carried out. In a few shelf areas scattered recordings were made of demersal species close to the rough bottom, while plankton and a few low density mesopelagic fish schools were found in the water column from the shelf break and further offshore. No acoustic biomass estimates were calculated for any species or groups. The only fish species caught were some lantern fishes (Myctophidae) and a few juvenile barracudas Sphyraenidae), tobies (Lagocephalus) and flounders (Bothidae).</p>				





**NANSEN PROJECT**



**Report: status: final References:**

S. Mehl, R. Roman, T. Bornman, K. Bernard, B. Flynn and I. M. Beck, (2008), CRUISE REPORTS "DR. FRIDTJOF NANSEN" ,**Mauritius Ecosystem Survey**, ASCLME / FAO 2008 Cruise 2, 04 - 07 October 2008, Institute of Marine Research, Bergen, 2008

**Constraints/Comments:**

