



UNITED NATIONS NATIONS UNIES

21st Century

Producers: Nathan Beriro, Gill Fickling

Script version: Final

Duration: 7'41"

SEYCHELLES: CORAL CRUSADERS

INTRO

Surrounded by over a million square kilometres of Indian Ocean, the people of the Seychelles depend on the sea for everything. But climate change is threatening their future. Now they are fighting for the survival of their reefs and all who depend on them. Coral Crusaders – on the frontline.

VIDEO

DRONE SHOTS OF
SEYCHELLES ;

AUDIO

TEXT ON SCREEN

The Seychelles ... global tourist
destination ... but beneath the
pristine waters ... lurks a
potential crisis ...(9.5")

SYLVANNA TRAVELLING IN
BOAT

SYLVANNA ANTAT (In English)

*The Seychelles, with the resources that we have
are the marine resources. That's what we have,*

NAME SUPER
SYLVANNA ANTAT
Seychelles National Parks
Authority
SYLVANNA ON CAM

that's all we have really.

And we depend on our marine resource for everything, whether it is economic activities, for tourism or fisheries. - we don't have anything without that. (19")

TEXT ON SCREEN:

The Republic of the Seychelles
... 115 islands in the Indian
Ocean ... surrounded by the
sea (9")

FISH MARKET SHOTS

I realized it was the important to conserve the ocean when growing up and understanding the relationship that the Seychelles people have with the ocean, with the marine ecosystem, how much we rely on it for our food because most of our food comes from the sea. (21")

I think I understood how important it was for us to protect it. (4")

HELENA SIMS ON CAM

NAME SUPER
HELENA SIMS, Spatial
Planning Initiative, Seychelles

HELENA SIMS (In English)

Everything is connected to the Ocean. We get food from the Ocean, protection from the Ocean, our climate, our weather is driven by processes which are driven by the ocean so everything we do in one way or another is connected to the ocean. It's an integral part of the lives. (18")

HELENA SIMS (In English)

We're only 454 square kms of land compared to over a million square kms of ocean, so ideally, you would call the Seychelles an oceanic state. Seychelles economy is driven by fisheries and tourism. Those are the two main drivers of our economy. 919")

TEXT ON SCREEN:

And as in many parts of the world's ocean, one of the key marine resources is coral (6")

SYLVANNA (In English)

The corals provide a home for different species in the ocean, macroinvertebrates, fish species but they also provide for economic activities, including diving and snorkeling but at the same time corals protect your coast line.

There has been a rise in ocean temperature and this has an impact on new corals because this leads to coral bleaching and then you lose the corals, you end up with dead corals (31")

TEXT ON SCREEN:

"Coral bleaching is caused by ocean warming. 93% of climate change heat is absorbed by the ocean"

United Nations Environment
Programme (UNEP) ("7")

When coral bleaches, you observe white corals and once they are dead, they are usually taken

over by tough algae. (9")

The resources that you had and the activities that you could carry out on the coral reefs, then you've lost that. (7")

HELENA SIMS (in English)

Most of the main challenges that our country is facing is related to climate change. The reefs closer to the inner islands are the ones that are most impacted from humans. These reefs are more likely to die off faster. (13")

IMAGES OF TOURISTS
SNORKELLING/DIVING

What you see is that fishermen have to go out further and for longer to catch the same amount of fish, the price of fish goes up and people have to pay more for a fish which is sad. (11")

TEXT ON SCREEN:

So the government of the
Seychelles came up with a plan
(4")

HELENA SIMS (In English)

I'm currently working on the Seychelles Marine Spatial Planning Initiative (3")

Supported by the UNDP's
Global Environment Facility ,the
plan identifies 30% of the
country's ocean for protection...
400,000 square kilometres

OVER map

HELENA SIMS (In English)

SHOTS OF DATA MODELLING

The plan will look to facilitate that we are able to continue with our fisheries industry, with our tourism industry in a sustainable way to ensure that we can rely on these economies for future generations to come. (15")

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TEXT ON SCREEN

Drawing on data on different uses of the ocean, the plan will identify areas most in need of protection (7")

HELENA SIMS (In English)

So if you have the right protected areas the right size, in the right place, then this will minimize that impact not only to our biodiversity but to our economy and to the people of the Seychelles. (10")

TEXT ON SCREEN:

Helena's team works hand in hand with the Seychelles National Parks Authority (SNPA) (6")

SEQUENCE OF SYLVANNA DIVING OFF BOAT AND MONITORING CORAL AND UNDERWATER SHOTS

SYLVANNA (In English)

We carry out diving activities with the intention of collecting data on coral reefs to ensure that the management of protected areas in the Seychelles is effective. (13")

INTW SYLVANNA ON BOAT

We're really looking at the state of the corals, especially with such events as coral bleaching.

We looked at corals, measured corals, we looked at coral recruits and we looked at macro invertebrates. (15")

The idea is to use this data, to look at effects of different activities on coral reefs, to look at diseases, to look at pollution in coral reefs specifically in protected areas but also outside protected areas. (18")

Mapping the reef, you can see the changes. Where you have this long period of time where the temperature is really high and the corals cannot recover, so this has a huge impact on your marine resource on coral reefs. (19")

We have started a coral reef restoration project looking at different ways to try to restore coral reefs using the corals that are more resilient and growing these corals and putting them back on reefs. (14")

HELENA SIMS (In English)

SNPA is one of our main key partners not only because they are the organization responsible currently for managing and protecting marine-protected areas but they also have several monitoring programmes which are integral in providing data to us. When it comes to future protected areas, they will be the key people to discuss with how well we would manage these

areas and what is the best approach. (29”)

SYLVANNA (In English)

I would like that everything that I do should make a difference and should have an impact

I think it's a wonderful feeling knowing that whatever information you bring back, it's going to contribute to the way we do conservation and that is going to have a positive impact on marine conservation in the Seychelles. (20”)

TEXT ON SCREEN:

“Coral reefs occur in over 100 countries worldwide. Half a billion people draw direct benefits from them.

If trends continue, 99% of the world's reefs will suffer bleaching within the century.

United Nations Environment Programme (UNEP).

(11”)

OCEAN LOGO:

The Ocean Conference
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