

PREVENTING EXTINCTIONS

Seychelles Paradise-flycatcher *Terpsiphone corvina*



Background

Seychelles Paradise-flycatcher, known locally as Vev, is endemic to the Seychelles, where the main (and most viable) population occurs on western La Digue. Comprehensive surveys have shown the population increased from 69-83 pairs in 1995-1996 to 104-139 pairs in 2000. Other smaller populations occur on Marianne and Praslin and it has been reported from Félicité. Recent translocations have established a population on Denis Island.

This strict insectivore requires mature stands of indigenous Badamier *Terminalia catappa* and Takamaka *Calophyllum innophyllum* trees in native woodland; it avoids areas of dry forest. The principal threat to the species is clearance of native forest for tourist-targeted developments; habitat fragmentation also compounds the negative impacts that invasive mammals have on the species.

Actions being implemented

1. A number of **staff have been recruited** to help run the project: an Education Officer, Community Action Coordinator, Communications Officer and Project Manager. The Education Officer has produced booklet material used to raise awareness among schoolchildren.
2. Meetings have been held to promote **stakeholder engagement**, with the La Digue Board and the National Parks Authority. The latter have signed an agreement with Nature Seychelles regarding the continued management of the Vev Reserve.
3. The project has raised awareness through its **media presence**. A newspaper article and two web pages have recently been published, and there has been a television broadcast on the species.

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