

GEOTRACES SO298

RV SONNE

SO298 "Equatorial Pacific GEOTRACES GP11"

April 14 - June 2, 2023
Guayaquil (Ecuador) - Townsville (Australia)

8th Weekly Report (May 29 - June 2, 2023)



Figure 1: Scientists of SO298. Photo by Eric Achterberg.

Our last station (station 39) was conducted on May 27 in international waters outside the EEZ of Papua New Guinea. The official permission to work in the waters of Papua New Guinea did not arrive, and therefore we steamed to Townsville in Australia. Whilst sailing in the Coral Sea, we analysed our last set of samples, cleared our laboratories, packed our boxes and loaded our containers. We therefore efficiently finalised our SO298 cruise and dropped off cruise participants in Townsville to fly back to their home countries. The Sonne cruise SO298 was successful, and we achieved the majority of our objectives. Plenty of samples to be analysed in the coming months, and manuscripts to be written. We sailed nearly 9000 nm, and sampled 39 stations. The success of the cruise was due to the great team effort from all involved, both on land and on the vessel. In particular I would like to mention the captain and crew, who contributed greatly to the success of the cruise. Over and out.



*Figure 2: RV SONNE arriving in Townsville on June 2 at the end of SO298.
Photo by Eric Achterberg.*

RV SONNE in Townsville

Eric Achterberg

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