



## RV SONNE cruise SO299 DYNAMET

06.06. – 29.07.2023  
Townsville (Australia) – Singapore

Weekly Report No. 8  
24.-29.07.2023

*At sea, 1° 18'N, 103° 43'E*

Our last week at sea was spent compiling our observations and preliminary findings and preparing the final cruise report. Every day of the week we organised corresponding presentations by the individual working groups and methods, in which initial findings were shared with the group with a constructive discussion about the future work that will be done on shore. Final tidying up and cleaning of the laboratories and packing of the containers kept us busy. Only the large container for the Ocean Bottom Magneto-Telluric (OBMT) instruments could only be packed in the port. On the transit itself, the weather remained relatively calm despite the typhoon east of the Philippines. Now and then we passed through smaller weather fronts and the wind blew mostly quite constantly at four to six Beaufort. The islands we crossed on our way through the Celebes and Sulu Seas and the South China Sea offered a welcome visual change. The closer we got to Singapore, the denser the ship and air traffic around and above us became. On Saturday morning, we entered the huge port of Singapore.



The scientific party of SO299. Foto: Torsten Bierstedt.

At 9:12 a.m. the first line was fixed to the berth and shortly afterwards the large container for the OBMT equipment arrived at the pier. Around noon, this was also packed and sealed. In the meantime, all scientists have disembarked and, after entering Singapore, are on their way to their hotels from where they will finally all be heading home.

Our expedition has already been a great success. 177 stations were performed, including 30 mapping profiles, 20 dredges, 20 heat flow stations, 18 OBS and 16 OBMT stations, 16 TV grab stations, 12 ROV dives and 7 gravity corer stations. A total of 447 rock samples, 346 sediment samples and 570 fluid and gas samples were collected. In addition, almost 21 terabytes of data were collected. The most exciting part, the evaluation of the observations, data and the processing of the samples in our laboratory will follow in the next weeks and months. At this point, I would like to thank the entire crew of the FS Sonne around Captain Tilo Birnbaum for their excellent work and outstanding cooperation. As chief scientist, I would also like to thank all the scientific participants for their outstanding commitment and team spirit during this expedition, which lasted almost eight weeks.

On behalf of all participants, greetings from the port of Singapore,

**Philipp Brandl**  
Chief Scientist