MONTHLY CLIMATE BULLETIN DECEMBER 2025

1. Introduction

This bulletin provides a synthesis of the prevailing climate conditions over Mahe, Praslin, and La Digue during December 2025. Rainfall deficits have persisted since April and continued through December 2025. As a result, dry conditions affected most areas of Mahe and Praslin. However, localized improvements in rainfall conditions were observed in pockets of the northern and northwestern parts of Mahe and over La Digue during December 2025. Weak La Nina conditions persisted during December 2025, with below-average sea surface temperatures across the east-central and eastern equatorial Pacific Ocean. The Indian Ocean Dipole (IOD) remained neutral during December, a period when the IOD is typically inactive (December-April). The Madden-Julian Oscillation (MJO) propagated through phases 7 and 8 at the beginning of December but remained weak thereafter.

2. Monthly rainfall performance in December 2025

2.1 Distribution of rainfall for December 2025

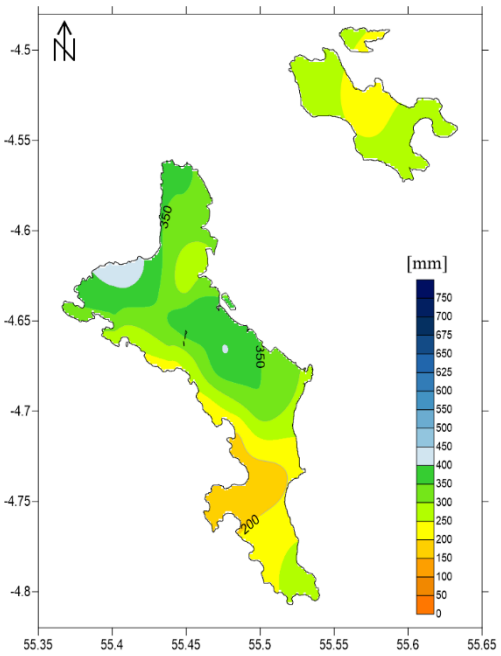


Figure 1: Monthly total rainfall in mm during December 2025

Figure 1 shows the spatial distribution of total rainfall across Mahe and Praslin for December 2025. Over Mahe, rainfall totals ranged from 181.6 to 437.2.3 mm. The maximum value was recorded at Bel Ombre station, while the minimum was measured at Anse Royale Station. Rainfall totals below 250 mm were recorded over most areas of southern Mahe and in some areas along the west coast of Mahe, while rainfall totals exceeding 250 mm were recorded elsewhere across the Island.

Over Praslin and La Digue, rainfall totals generally ranged from 223.3 to 338.0 mm. The highest rainfall total on Praslin was recorded at the Praslin Fond Boffay station, while the highest value on La Digue was observed at the La Digue Belvue station.

2.2 Monthly rainfall anomaly and percentage of normal rainfall during December 2025

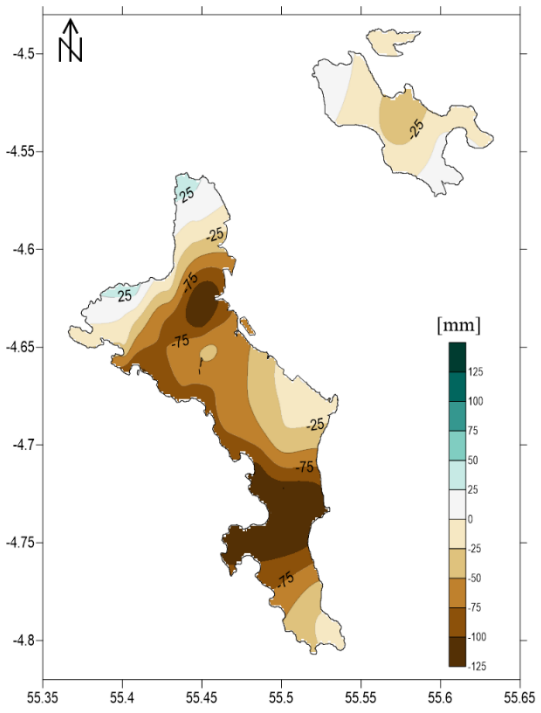


Figure 2: Monthly rainfall anomaly in mm during December 2025

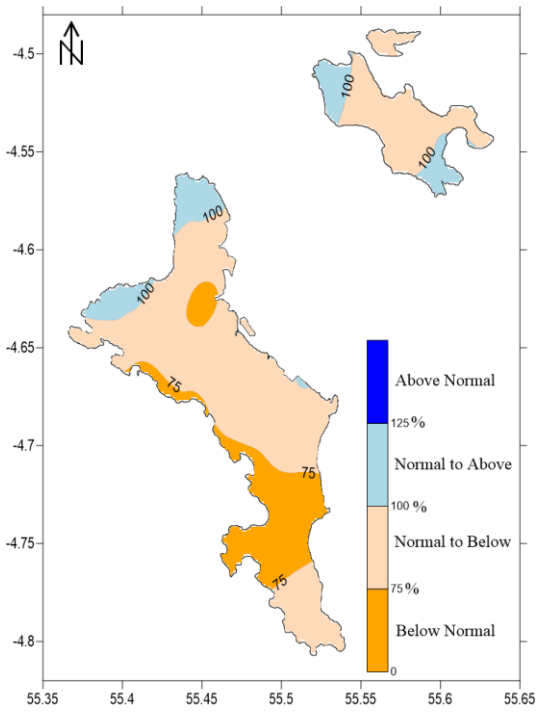


Figure 3: Percent of normal rainfall during December 2025

Figure 2 presents rainfall anomalies over Mahe and Praslin for December 2025. Rainfall deficits were observed across Mahe, except for localized areas in the northern and northwestern parts of the island. Rainfall deficits ranging from -75 mm to -142 mm were recorded along the west coast and over the southern of Mahe. Rainfall deficits were also observed across most of Praslin, except for localized areas in the northwestern and southeastern parts of the island.

Figure 3 illustrates rainfall conditions over Mahe and Praslin. Both islands were predominantly characterized by near-normal to below-normal rainfall conditions. Exceptions were observed in localized areas in the extreme north and northwestern parts of Mahe, as well as in the northwestern and southeastern parts of Praslin, where normal to above-normal rainfall

conditions were recorded. Figure 4 shows that La Digue, Aride Island, and Denis Island experienced normal to above-normal rainfall conditions during December 2025.

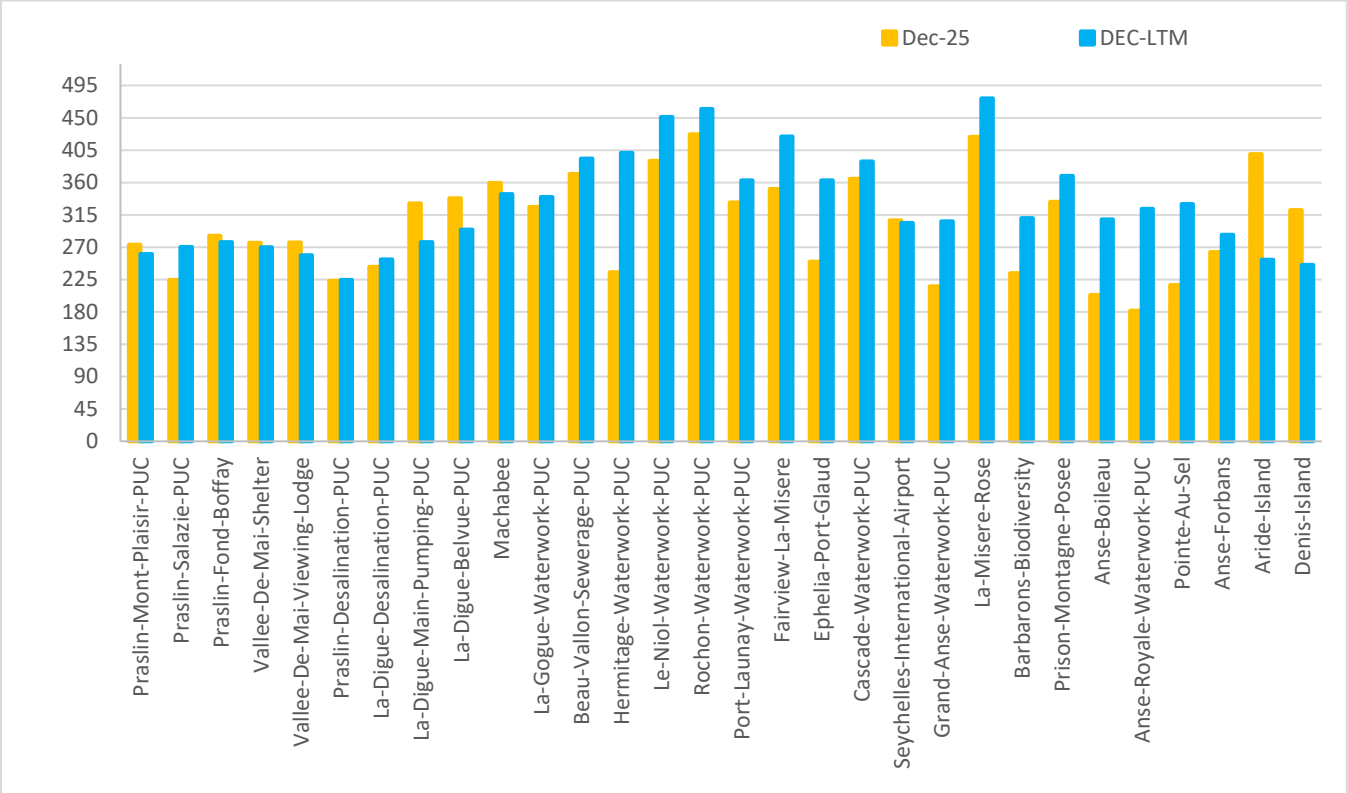


Figure 4: December 2025 rainfall total against December Long Term Mean (LTM)

3. Mean temperature anomaly - December 2025

The mean air temperature recorded in December 2025 was 27.6°C, representing a positive anomaly of +0.1°C relative to the 1991-2020 reference period. This indicates that mean temperatures during the month were slightly near the climatological normal (Figure 5).

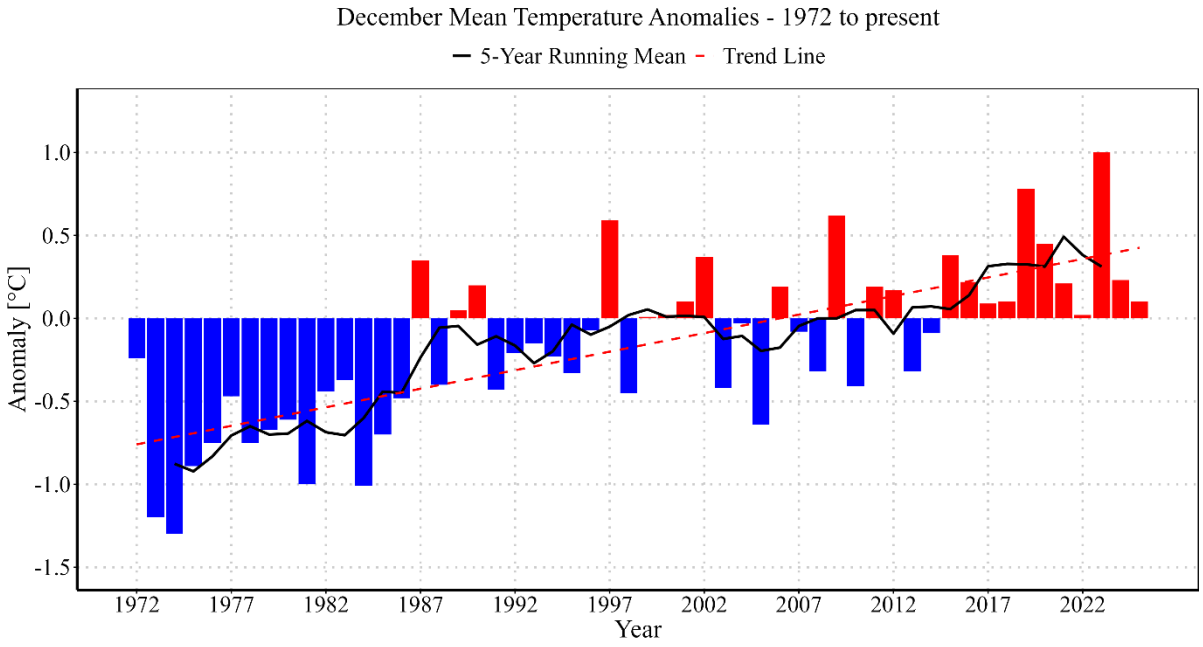


Figure 5: Mean temperature anomalies relative to the 1991-2020 reference period. Note: Anomalies refer to deviations from the mean or average temperatures. Positive anomalies (in red bars) imply that temperatures were warmer than average while negative anomalies (in blue bars) imply that temperatures were cooler than average.

4. Daily weather for December 2025 at Seychelles International Airport

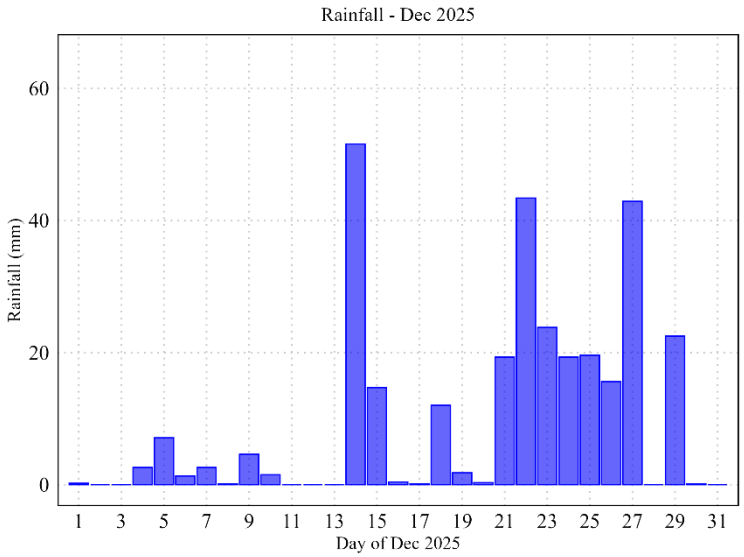
4.1. Daily rainfall, relative humidity, maximum and minimum temperature in December 2025

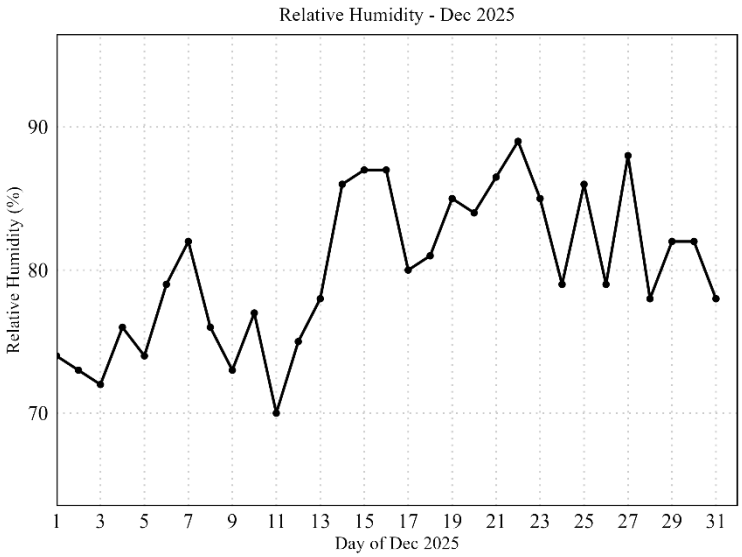
At Seychelles International Airport, a total of 307.2 mm of rainfall was recorded in December 2025, which was close to the climatological normal for the month (298.1 mm). The highest daily rainfall was 51.6 mm, recorded on 14th December. Rainfall distribution by dekad showed 19.9 mm during the first dekad (1-10 December), 80.8 mm during the second dekad (11-20 December), and 206.5 mm during the third dekad (21-31 December). Most of the monthly rainfall (67%) occurred during the third dekad. Daily rainfall during the first dekad did not exceed 8.0 mm. The third dekad was characterized by seven consecutive wet days, with daily rainfall exceeding 15 mm. A wet day is defined as a day with more than 1 mm of rainfall.

Relative humidity during December ranged from 70% to 89%. The monthly mean relative humidity was 80%, slightly lower than the 1991-2020 climatological normal. The lowest relative humidity was recorded on 11st December, while the highest value occurred on 22nd December. Relative humidity increased from the second dekad of December onward.

Maximum temperatures ranged from 28.3°C to 32.1°C. The highest daily maximum temperature was recorded on 11st and 12nd December, while the lowest maximum temperature occurred on 22nd December. The monthly mean maximum temperature was 30.8°C, slightly above the climatological normal.

Minimum temperatures ranged from 23.0°C to 26.2°C. The highest minimum temperature was recorded on 21st December, and the lowest occurred on 29th and 30th December. The monthly mean minimum temperature was 24.5°C, slightly below the climatological normal.





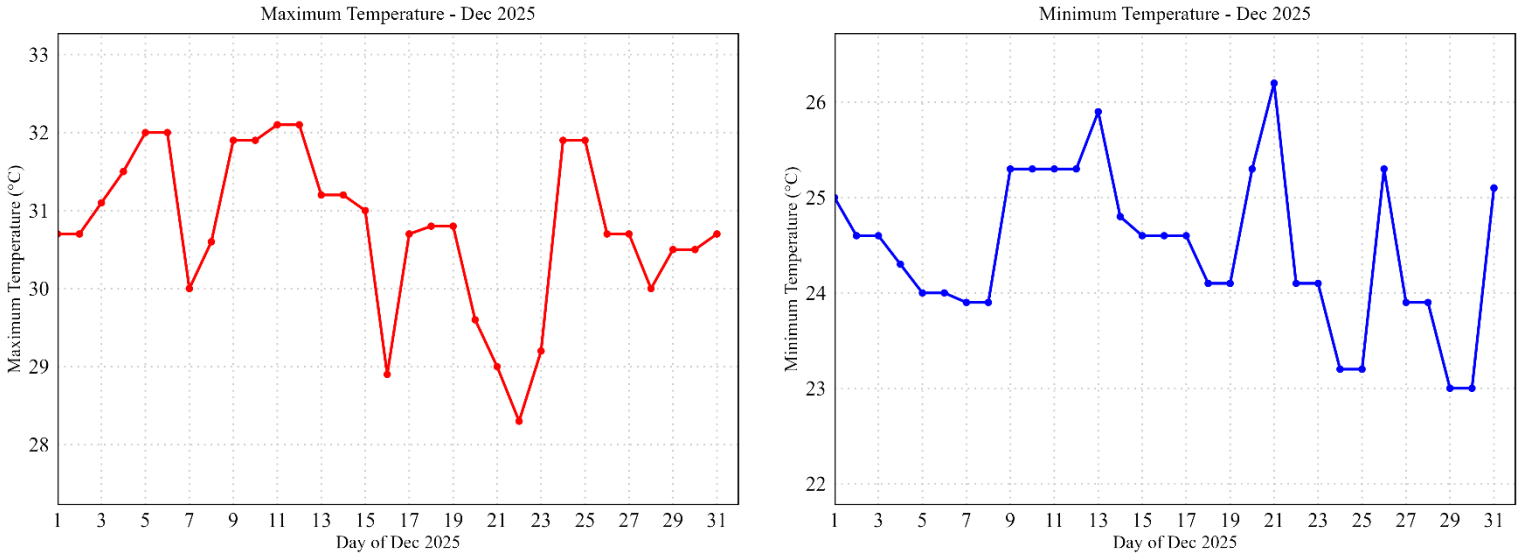


Figure 6: Daily rainfall, Relative humidity, Maximum temperature, Minimum temperature in December 2025

4.2. Daily sunshine hours, Mean Sea level pressure and surface wind in December 2025

In December 2025, wind speeds at Seychelles International Airport ranged from 2.2 to 7.5 kt. The highest daily wind speed was recorded on 26th December. The monthly mean wind speed was 4.2 kt, slightly below the December climatological normal (5.6 kt). The strongest wind gust, reaching 34 kt, was recorded on 27th December. Wind directions during the month were predominantly from the westerly to south-southwesterly sector, with southwesterly winds being the most frequent.

Mean sea level pressure ranged from 1013.1 to 1018.9 hPa, with a monthly mean of 1011 hPa, which was close to the climatological normal for December.

The average daily sunshine duration in December 2025 was 6.1 hours, exceeding the climatological normal of 5.7 hours. The highest daily sunshine duration (11.2 hours) was recorded on 11th December.

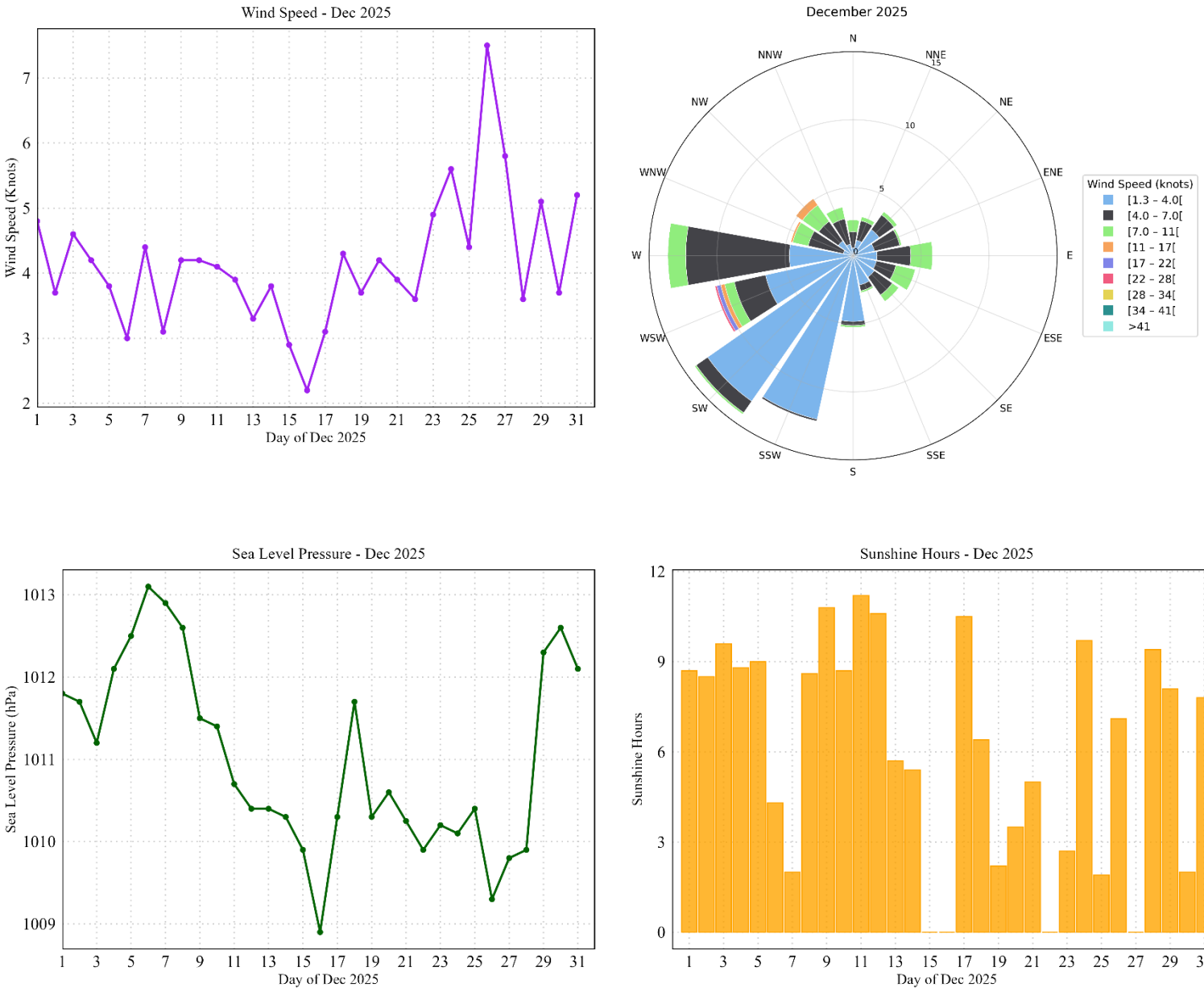


Figure 7: Daily wind speed, wind direction, Sea Level pressure, sunshine hours in December 2025

4.3.Wind Pattern in December 2025

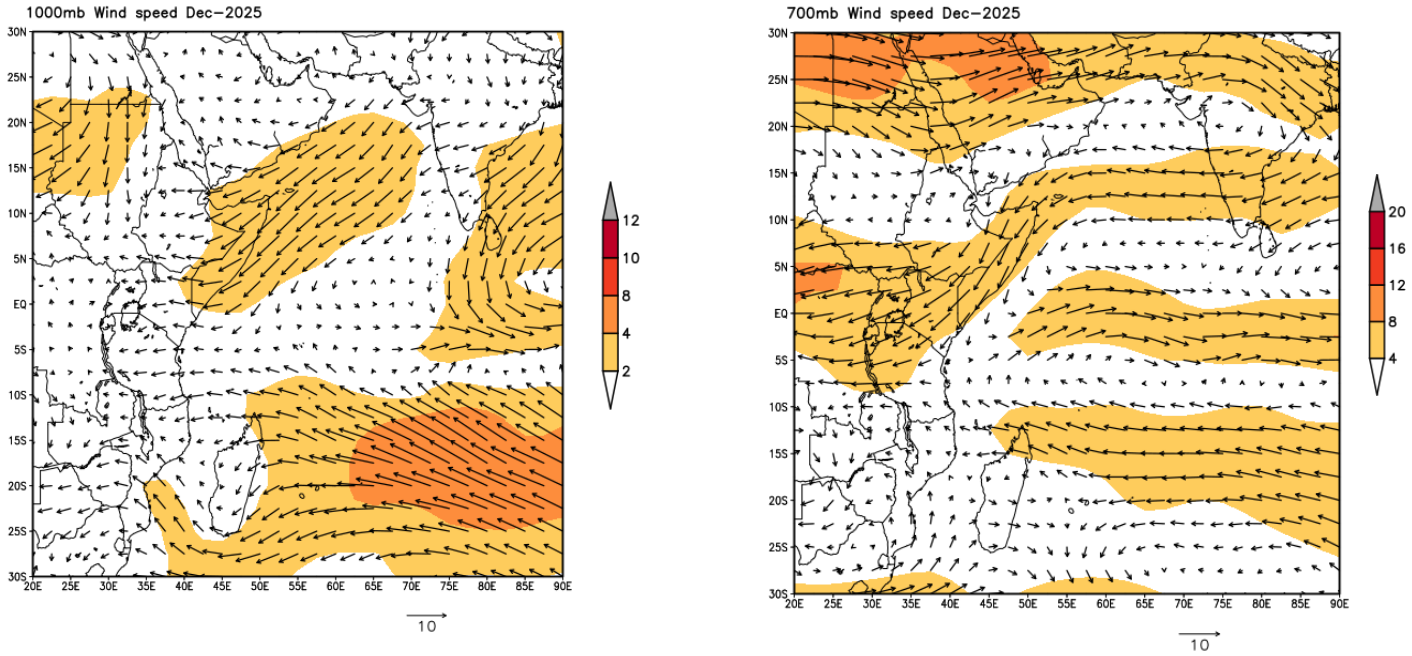


Figure 8: Surface wind flow (left) and wind flow at 700mb (right)

Figure 8 presents the wind vector fields at 1000 hPa and 700 hPa over the western Indian Ocean for December 2025. At low levels (1000 hPa), the flow over Mahe, Praslin, and La Digue was south-easterly. Weaker low-level wind speeds were observed over Seychelles region and between approximately 5°S and 8°S.

The Mascarene High was centered at approximately 33°S and 80°E, with a mean central pressure around 1022 hPa.

At 700 hPa, winds over Mahe, Praslin, and La Digue were predominantly south-southwesterlies, with speeds generally below 4 m s^{-1}. East of Mahe, between approximately 2°N-5°S and 50°E-100°E, westerly winds persisted at mid-levels, with speeds ranging from 4 to 8 m s^{-1}.